

3

7/6 Cab2
254



光緒

AN ACCOUNT
OF
PARIS,
AT THE
CLOSE OF THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY:

RELATING TO THE
BUILDINGS OF THAT CITY, ITS LIBRARIES, GARDENS,
NATURAL AND ARTIFICIAL CURIOSITIES, THE
MANNERS AND CUSTOMS OF THE PEOPLE,
THEIR ARTS, MANUFACTURES, &c.

BY MARTIN LISTER, M. D.

NOW REVISED,
WITH COPIOUS BIOGRAPHICAL, HISTORICAL, AND
LITERARY ILLUSTRATIONS AND ANECDOTES,

AND
A SKETCH OF THE LIFE OF THE AUTHOR,

BY GEORGE HENNING, M. D.

Obscurata diu populo bonus eruet, atque
Proferet in lucem speciosa vocabula rerum,
Quæ priscis memorata Catonibus atque Cethegis,
Nunc situs informis premit et deserta vetustas.
Luxuriantia compescet: nimis aspera sano
Levabit cultu, virtute carentia tollet.

Hor. L. 2. Ep. 2. v. 115.

SHAFTESBURY:

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY J. RUTTER;
ALSO PUBLISHED IN LONDON
BY LONGMAN AND CO, PATERNOSTER-ROW; YOUNG AND CO.
TAVISTOCK STREET, AND UNDERWOOD, FLEET STREET.

DC729
L77
1823

1194 B20
Ja 12 43

ms. 12 June 43

THE AUTHOR'S DEDICATION.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY

JOHN,

*Lord Sommers, Baron of Evesham, Lord High
Chancellor, and one of the Lords Justices of
England.*

My Lord,

*Wisdom is the foundation of justice
and equity, and it seems not to be perfect un-
less it also comprehends philosophy and natural
learning, and whatever is of great taste in the
arts. It is certain, my Lord, for the honour of
your high station, that the greatest philosophers
of the age, were of your predecessors; nor is
your Lordship in any respect behind them, so
that it would seem as though nothing inspired
people with more equity than a true value for
useful learning and arts. It is this reflection
which has given me the courage to offer to your
Lordship this short account of the magnificent*

and noble city of Paris, and the court of that great king, who has given Europe such long and vehement disquiet, and has cost England in particular so much blood and treasure.

It is possible, my Lord, that you may find a leisure hour to read over these papers for your diversion; and I promise you that you will meet with nothing in them that is offensive, but pure matters of fact, and the concise remarks of an unprejudiced observer.

But that I may no longer importune you, who are so perpetually busied in such laborious yet useful employments,

I beg leave to subscribe myself,

*My Lord, your Lordship's
most humble and most obedient servant,*

MARTIN LISTER.

PREFACE

BY THE

Editor.

THE work now re-presented to the public, was originally written and published in the year 1698, by Dr. LISTER, a physician of great eminence in London, who attended the Earl of Portland in his Embassy to France, to negotiate the Treaty of Peace of Ryswick.

On this occasion Dr. LISTER resided at Paris for six months, during which time he employed his leisure in conversing with the literati of that Capital, in inspecting its various museums of natural and artificial curiosities and antiquities, the libraries and gardens, the palaces and mansions. Whatever he saw he recorded, and, at his return, made the whole, the subject-matter of a volume, to which he gave the title of a Journey to Paris in the year 1698.

He has enlivened his narrative with many anecdotes of distinguished individuals, and with a variety of reflections and remarks that bespeak the profound scholar, the enlightened man of the world, and the accomplished gentleman.

This work, which was very well received, is thought worthy of republication, not only as being out of print and obsolete, but as affording descriptions of ancient magnificence and grandeur—now no more.

The office of the Editor has neither been confined to the correction of the text, nor to the alteration of the stile; he has found it necessary to correct many redundancies, and to supply some omissions; he has, moreover, added copious biographical and historical notes and illustrations, and anecdotes of many of the individuals to which the original work refers. For these he is solely responsible.

A S K E T C H

OF THE

L I F E O F D R . L I S T E R .

MARTIN LISTER was born about the year 1638. His family, which came originally from Yorkshire, was at the time of his birth settled in the county of Buckingham, and had produced several individuals who became eminent in the medical profession. Among these was Sir Matthew Lister, who had the distinguished honour to be physician to King Charles the first, and President of the College of Physicians.

Martin enjoyed the great advantage to be educated under the direction of his uncle Sir Matthew, and was sent to St. John's College, Cambridge, where he took his Bachelor's degree in arts in the year 1658; and at the Restoration in 1660, he was, in consequence of his determined and steady loyalty, appointed fellow of his college by Royal Mandate. Two years afterwards he proceeded Master of Arts, and, applying himself to physic, travelled to France, for the purpose of enlarging his knowledge, and was very assiduous in the pursuit of it. In 1670 he returned to England, and settled at York, where he acquired great and deserved reputation as an accomplished and scientific physician.

The time which he was able to spare from the

exercise of his profession, he devoted with equal zeal and fondness to the investigation of the natural history and antiquities of several parts of England, but particularly the north, and frequently made journeys for that sole purpose. The communications which he was thus enabled to make to the Royal Society, on the different subjects of meteorology, hydrology, mineralogy, botany, zoology, anatomy, pharmacy and antiquities, in addition to the treatises which he had previously published on natural history, were so numerous, so various, and so important, as to procure his admission as a member of that illustrious body. He also contributed to the Ashmolean Museum, at Oxford, many ancient coins, altars, and other antiquities, together with a great number of natural curiosities. To the same museum he sent likewise the drawings which had been made by his two daughters, from which the plates in his *Synopsis Conchyliorum* were engraved.

His reputation stood now so high in the kingdom, although he resided at so great a distance from the metropolis, that he was importuned to remove thither; and yielding to the solicitations of his friends and the public, he settled in London in the year 1683. In the spring of the same year he was created Doctor of Physic at Oxford by diploma, at the particular recommendation of the Lord Chancellor, and was soon after elected a fellow of the College of Physicians.

Having now for the long period of twenty-six years, been unremittingly engaged in the duties of his profession, and other fatiguing pursuits, he thought it prudent to decline general practice; and, his health being much impaired, he was glad for the recovery of

it, to avail himself of the opportunity of going in the suite of the ambassador to France; the air of that country, where he had been twice before, having been beneficial to him. There he passed six months; and, at his return, drew up for the satisfaction of the public, an account of what he had seen and remarked in the French metropolis.

In the year 1709, in consequence of the illness of Dr. Hannes, he was appointed physician in ordinary to Queen Anne; an honour which he did not long enjoy. He died in February 1711-12, in his seventy-fourth year, worn out with age and infirmities.

Having thus offered the best account of the life of Lister, which I have been enabled to compile from the few materials that chance has thrown in my way, it may not be unacceptable to the reader to receive some concise remarks on his writings, together with some observations on his character as a writer.

It has been candidly and justly acknowledged, that although most of the publications of Lister are distinguished by a propensity to hypothesis, and by too strong an attachment to the doctrines of ancient writers, yet that they are not destitute of many valuable observations, the result of his own experience.

Of the accuracy of this critique, none of his works afford clearer evidence than his "*Exercitationes de fontibus medicatis Angliæ*"

The same qualified praise applies to his *Exercitationes sex Medicinales*, first published 1694, republished with additions under the title of *Octo Exercitationes Medicinales* 1697, when his health had declined so much, as to make it necessary for him to indulge in more sedentary habits, and to relinquish the fa-

tigues of business. The diseases here treated of are dropsy, diabetes, hydrophobia, lues venerea, scurvy, gout, calculus, and small-pox.

In the treatment of dropsy he places the greatest reliance on drastic purgatives, and a rigid abstinence from liquids.

His theory of diabetes makes that disease to consist in a relaxation of the renal vessels; he denies the saccharine taste in the early stages of the complaint; and gives one example of a cure effected by freely drinking wine with ginger boiled in it; milk-water being allowed to appease the thirst.

In hydrophobia he affirms that no one ever recovered in whom the dread of water was present. He narrates the history of one Corton, which is extremely curious, and well worthy of perusal.

Of the lues he regards quicksilver as the great specific, but suggests that an antidote is necessary to obviate the effects of the remedy itself, and that guaiacum is that antidote.

Of calculus he says, that it is of the nature of true stone; the origin of it he attributes to the ingesta, and to debility of the secreting organs, which last he regards as the *sine quâ non* of the disease.

Of gout he deduces the origin from debility of the organs destined to secrete the humors in the joints; and for the cure, relies on abstinence from solids as well as fluids; *parva cibatio summæ curæ sit*, is, he says, a golden rule.

In the scurvy, as might be expected, nothing worthy of notice occurs; but in the small-pox, he censures severely the cooling practice which Sydenham had introduced, and Sydenham for introducing it, and

expresses his decided preference for the remedies called alexipharmics.

His *Dissertatio de Humoribus*, the last of his productions, and the work of his old age, teems with hypothetical and gratuitous notions of his own, and with refutations of those of other theorists, and is as censorious of Drake and Ruysch, as his exercitation of small-pox was of Sydenham. He also published in the philosophical transactions nearly forty papers, besides the following works:

"*Historiæ Animalium tres tractatus: unus de Araneis; alter de Cochleis Terrestribus et Fluviatilibus; tertius de Cochleis Marinis;*" 4to. 1678.

"*Exercitatio Anatomica de Cochleis maxime Terrestribus, et Limacibus,*" 8vo. 1694.

"*Exercitatio Anatomica altera de Buccinis Fluviatilibus et Marinis,*" 8vo. 1695.

"*Exercitatio Anatomica tertia Conchyliorum Bivalvium,*" 4to. 1696.

He published also a new edition of Goedart on Insects, which he almost re-cast and greatly methodized.

But the work which it is more particularly incumbent on me to notice, since it gave rise to the present undertaking, is the "*Journey to Paris;*" in offering which to the public, I am solely actuated by the desire to impart to others, who may never have seen it, the pleasure which I myself experienced in the perusal of it. That it will obtain the approbation of all classes of readers I dare not be so sanguine as to expect, because I know how large a proportion of such as are *general* readers, dislike whatever has the appearance of being antiquated, not to say obsolete.

That this work contains a great deal of curious matter, can only be denied by those whose prejudices have hindered their perusal of it, or those to whom no opportunity has been afforded of seeing it. And it must be admitted that some things of a trifling nature found their way into it, as if the learned author had merely transcribed his journal. The style itself was also remarkably inaccurate and negligent. It is, however, an indisputable fact, that the work at its first appearance was extremely well received, and it may be mentioned in confirmation of it, that the author was sufficiently encouraged to be induced to print a second edition of it in the following year. This must have afforded him the greater satisfaction, as attempts had been made to turn into ridicule not only the work itself, but even the author on account of the work. He was more particularly assailed by Dr. William King, a civilian, who was remarkable for his facetiousness and dry grave banter, and whose motto was "*ridentem dicere verum quid vetat?*" The peculiar course which he selected on the present occasion, was to make a Travestie of Dr. Lister's Journey to Paris, by contriving a similar, but fictitious Journey to London, to be made by one Sorbiere, a Frenchman, who thirty years before had published a narrative of a voyage which he had then made to England, and which was so remarkable for its inaccuracies, and want of knowledge of the manners and customs of the nation among whom he had resided three months, that the application of his name was in itself an indirect satire.

It may be acceptable to the reader to see exhibited a few specimens of the peculiar vein of Dr. King's

irony, and I will therefore select two or three of the most ludicrous and satirical.

One, alluding to Dr. Lister's avowal of his love of nature, &c. in the introduction, is as follows: "though I met with an English gentleman who proffered to shew me the princes of the blood, the prime ministers of state, &c. yet I refused the civility, and told him that I took more pleasure to see honest John Sharp of Hackney, in his white frock, crying turnips, ho! four bunches a penny! than Sir Charles Cotterel making room for an ambassador; and I found myself better disposed and more apt to learn the physiognomy of a hundred weeds, than of five or six princes."

Another is as follows: "The reason why there are more boats below bridge than above, is because there is a custom house, &c. and the reason why there lie so many hundred large vessels of all sorts, and of all nations is, because they cannot get through bridge, *heigh!* and there are a great many light boats laden with brooms, gingerbread, tobacco, and a dram of the bottle, *ho!*"

The last specimen of this satirical paraphrase that I shall produce is this: "I was walking in St. James's park. There were no pavilions nor decoration of treillage and flowers, but I saw there a vast number of *ducks*. These were a most surprising sight. I could not forbear to say to Mr. Johnson who was pleased to accompany me in this walk, that sure all the ponds in England had contributed to this profusion of *ducks*; which he took so well, that he ran immediately to an old gentleman that sat in a chair and was feeding them, who rose up very obligingly, embraced me, and saluted me with a kiss, and invited

me to dinner, telling me he was infinitely obliged to me for flattering the king's ducks."

Nor did he stop here; but made the doctor the butt of his ridicule, or rather sarcasm, on account of his edition of the work of Apicius Cælius, on the soups and sauces of the ancients. The vehicle of his satire was his poem, which he called the Art of Cookery, in imitation of Horace's Art of Poetry. This he addressed to Dr. Lister, and made him, in a manner, the hero of the piece. It opens thus:

" Ingenious Lister ! were a picture drawn,
With Cynthia's face, but with a neck like brawn,
With wings of turkey, and with feet of calf,
Though drawn by Kneller it would make you laugh."

And in a further part says :

" Oh could that poet live, could he rehearse,
Thy journey, Lister, in immortal verse—
Muse ! sing the man that did to Paris go,
That he might taste their soups, and mushrooms know."

In all this the want of candour and liberality is quite as conspicuous as the ability admitted to be displayed. The public did not enter into the jest, and it is probable, that the author's fondness of the piece, which he shewed on several occasions by describing himself as the author of Sorbiere's Journey to London, led him to attach more importance to it than it was entitled to.

In all his works Lister gave ample proof of the great accuracy of his observation, and in those more particularly anatomical, of the unwearied industry with which he persevered in detecting and developing the minute structure of the human body, and that of inferior animals. The great blemish of his literary character was his excessive fondness for controversy,

and the severity with which he animadverted on several of the most eminent physicians, with whom he chanced to differ in opinion. The great Sydenham was, on more occasions than one, treated by him with the utmost want of candour, and almost with downright rudeness. He comprehends him with some others, under the unwarrantable title of *nostri homines*, *our men*; and alludes to him as "one of the late vain expositors of nature, and as playing the philosopher by fanciful and precarious interpretations of the nature of diseases and medicines, to gain a sort of credit with the ignorant." "Such," he says, "are all those that have not studied physic thoroughly and in earnest." It is to the credit of Sydenham, that although he so frequently and so feelingly complains of the illiberal and harsh treatment which he received at the hands of his cotemporaries, he never once mentions them by *name*. Not so with the illustrious and astonishing anatomist Ruysch! He, having been stigmatized by Lister, in his Dissertation on the Humors, gave way to his natural irritability, and repelled the attack with great warmth and no small appearance of justice:^a No one, therefore, he says, can deny that it was extremely indecorous in Martin Lister, an Englishman, and an advocate for the existence of glands in the viscera, who has read his treatise of the humors, in which he repeatedly charges me with having advanced *falsehoods*; a charge which might with more justice be hurled back upon himself, who has presumed to pass his judgement on things which he never beheld.

^a Frederici Ruyschii Anat. at Botan. Prof. &c. Thesau. Anatomicus Nonus. Prefatio.

Calumniators of this description, presuming to decide on subjects of which they are absolutely ignorant, are hardly to be endured.

“He has, moreover, in several parts of the said tract, reflected on me, alleging that I am of opinion, and have even published, what indeed I have never uttered, nor committed to paper; viz. that I deny the existence of glands in the body altogether; and as for those in the cerebrum, that I affirm them to be merely fat, &c. And why, I should be glad to know, has he not mentioned the place, or at least the work, in which I have thus expressed myself? There is not an individual who has read my publications, who does not know the contrary!

“I will not, however, insult this stickler for the existence of glands, because he chances to think differently from me, and endeavours to confute my doctrines, contending, as he does, in opposition to modern discoveries, and stubbornly adhering to obsolete hypotheses respecting the glands, while he has not had an opportunity of even seeing the new appearances, and faithful preparations which are in my museum!”

It is worthy of observation that Lister, although he so frequently indulges his disposition to be sarcastic, takes great pains to persuade himself and the world that he utterly abhors every appearance of illiberality; “à qua tamen *inurbanitate* maximè abhorreo.”

Something might be urged in extenuation of this infirmity, but it is not essential. It is the only one which has descended to posterity.

NAMES OF SUBSCRIBERS.

ALEXANDER, James, Esq. Kentish Town.
Aubery, Rev. Edward, Rector of Longbridgy, Dorset.
Axford, Frederick, Esq. Bridgewater.
Baillie, Matthew, M. D. London, 2 copies.
Barker, Rev. A. Master of the Grammar School, Taunton.
Bartlett, Mr. Surgeon, Shapwick, Somerset.
Bath and Wells, Right Rev. the Bishop of
Beadon, Mrs. Palace, Wells.
Beadon, Rev. Frederick, Canon of Wells.
Board, Mr. Surgeon, Huntspill, Somerset.
Bowles, Charles, Esq. Shaftesbury.
Bowels, Captain, Huish House, near Langport.
Broderip, Edmund, Esq. Wells.
Broderip, Edmund, Jun. Esq. Wells.
Brookes, Henry, Esq. Wells.
Brown, John, Esq. Shepton.
Bullock, Rev. C. Vicar of St. Pauls, Bristol.
Booth, Mr. G. Bristol.
Chard, Rev. John, Langport.
Cobley, Rev. John, Cheddar, Somerset.
Coles, Joseph, Esq. Wookey, near Wells.
Colston, Rev. Dr. Yarlinton, Somerset.
Coombes, Rev. Dr. Shepton.
Davis, John, Esq. Okehill, Somerset.
Dauncey, Mr. C. Butleigh, Somerset.
Dyne, Miss, }
Dyne, Miss, Amy, } Cross, near Axbridge, Somerset.
Egmont, Right Hon. Earl of, Enmore Castle, Somerset.

NAMES OF SUBSCRIBERS.

Egmont, Countess of, Enmore Castle, Somerset.
Eyre, Mrs. Wells, 2 copies.
Flower, Mr. Surgeon, Chilcompton, Somerset.
Foster, Rev. Edward, Wells.
Foster, Rev. Robert, Wells.
Foster, Colonel, Wells.
Foster, Rev. F. D. Dodington, Somerset.
Foster, Mr. Surgeon, Bridgewater.
Fedden, Mr. C. Bristol.
Gamlen, Rev. S. Heighington, Durham.
Garland, George, Esq. Stone, near Wimborne, Dorset.
George, Rev. William, North Petherton, Somerset.
George, Miss Elizabeth, North Petherton, Somerset.
Gilbert, Davies, Esq. M. P. East Bourne, Sussex.
Golding, John, Esq. Wookey House, near Wells.
Gould, Rev. H. Canon of Wells.
Gould, Miss, Wells.
Grenville, General, Hill Street, Berkley Square.
Gray, Rev. James, Swindon.
George, Mr. S. Bristol.
Gardner, John, Esq. Bristol.
Hanning, William, Esq. Dillington House, Somerset.
Haviland, Mr. Surgeon, Bridgewater.
Hawkes, Mr. Surgeon, Wells.
Haydon, —, Esq. Royal Academician, London.
Heath, Mr. Queen Street, Cheapside.
Henning, William, Esq. Frome Whitfield House, near Dorchester.
Henning, Robert, Esq. Dorchester.
Henning, Edmund, Esq. Weymouth.
Henning, Charles, Esq. Wells.
Henning, George, Esq. Fordington, near Dorchester.
Henning, John, Esq. Weymouth.
Henning, John, Esq. Poole.
Henning, Miss M. Alton House, Dorset.
Henning, Miss H. Alton House, Dorset.
Henning, Charles B. Esq. Dorchester.

NAMES OF SUBSCRIBERS.

Highmore, Captain, R. N. Butleigh, Somerset.
Hobbes, Rev. Thomas, Cossington, Somerset.
Hobbes, Mrs. Cossington, Somerset.
Hope, Henry, Esq. Wells.
Humfrey, Richard, Esq. Berkley Square, Bristol.
Hellicar, Joseph, Esq. Bristol.
Hosier, Mrs. Colston's Parade, Bristol.
James, Rev. W. Dinder, near Wells.
Jeffery, W. Esq. Langford, Somerset,
Jenkyns, Mrs. Anne, Wells, 6 copies.
John, Samuel, Esq. Penzance.
Johnson, Rev. C. South Brent, Somerset.
Knollis, Miss, Wells.
Knollis, Miss C. Wells.
Lander, David, Esq. Poole.
Lane, Mrs. Bristol.
Le Grice, Rev. C. V. Treneife, near Penzance.
Lovell, Lovell, Esq. Wells.
Michell, Miss, Wells.
Mines, Mr. Surgeon, Shepton.
Norman, Mr. Surgeon, Langport.
Padfield, —, Esq. Shepton.
Pain, Sol. Esq. Huntspill Court, Somerset.
Pain, S. J. Esq. New Inn, London.
Parfit, Rev. Thomas, Glastonbury.
Parker, Robert, Esq. Axbridge, Somerset.
Parker, Mr. Surgeon, Cross, near Axbridge, Somerset.
Parkin, William, Esq. Ludgvan, near Marazion.
Parr, Thomas, Esq. Poole.
Parsons, James, Esq. Bridgewater.
Percival, Viscount, Enmore Castle.
Phelps, Mrs. South Brent, Somerset.
Phelps, Mrs. Wells.
Phelps, Isaac, Esq. South Brent, Somerset.
Phippen, Mr. Surgeon, Wedmore, Somerset.
Porch, Thomas, Esq. Wells.
Quantock, —, Esq. Hinton St. George.

NAMES OF SUBSCRIBERS.

Quickett, Mr. Langport.
Reynolds, V. S. Esq. London.
Rich, George, Esq. Wells.
Ryall, Mr. Butleigh, Somerset.
Saunders, W. Esq. Huntspill, Somerset.
Sherry, —, Esq. West Lambrook, Somerset.
Smith, Rev. T. Master of the Grammar School, Shepton.
Stambury, Rev. H, Hinton St. George, Somerset.
Stanton, Daniel, Esq. Wick House, near Bristol, 4 copies.
Stanton, Captain, R. N. Bristol.
Stephens, Rev. John, Ludgvan, near Marazion. 2 copies.
Stringer, Miss, Wells.
Stuckey, Vincent, Esq. High Sheriff of Somerset.
Symons, George, Esq. Cheddar, Somerset.
Symons, Rev. B. P. Wadham College, Oxford.
Symons, Henry, Esq. Axbridge, Somerset.
Taylor, C. W. Esq. M. P. Wells, 2 copies.
Tozer, Rev. Mr. Marlborough.
Trevelyan, Rev. G. Archdeacon of Taunton.
Troughton, B. Esq. Shepton.
Tudway. Mrs. Liberty, Wells, 2 copies.
Tuson, Edward, Esq. Wells.
Tuson, Miss, Wells.
Vining, Charles, Esq. Clifton,
Walker. Miss, Tiverton.
Were, —, Esq. Bedminster.
Weston, Samuel, Esq. Parkstone, near Poole.
White, Mr. Veterinary Surgeon, Wells.
Whittle, J. Esq. Toller, near Dorchester.
Wickham, Rev. Provis, Charlton House, near Shepton.

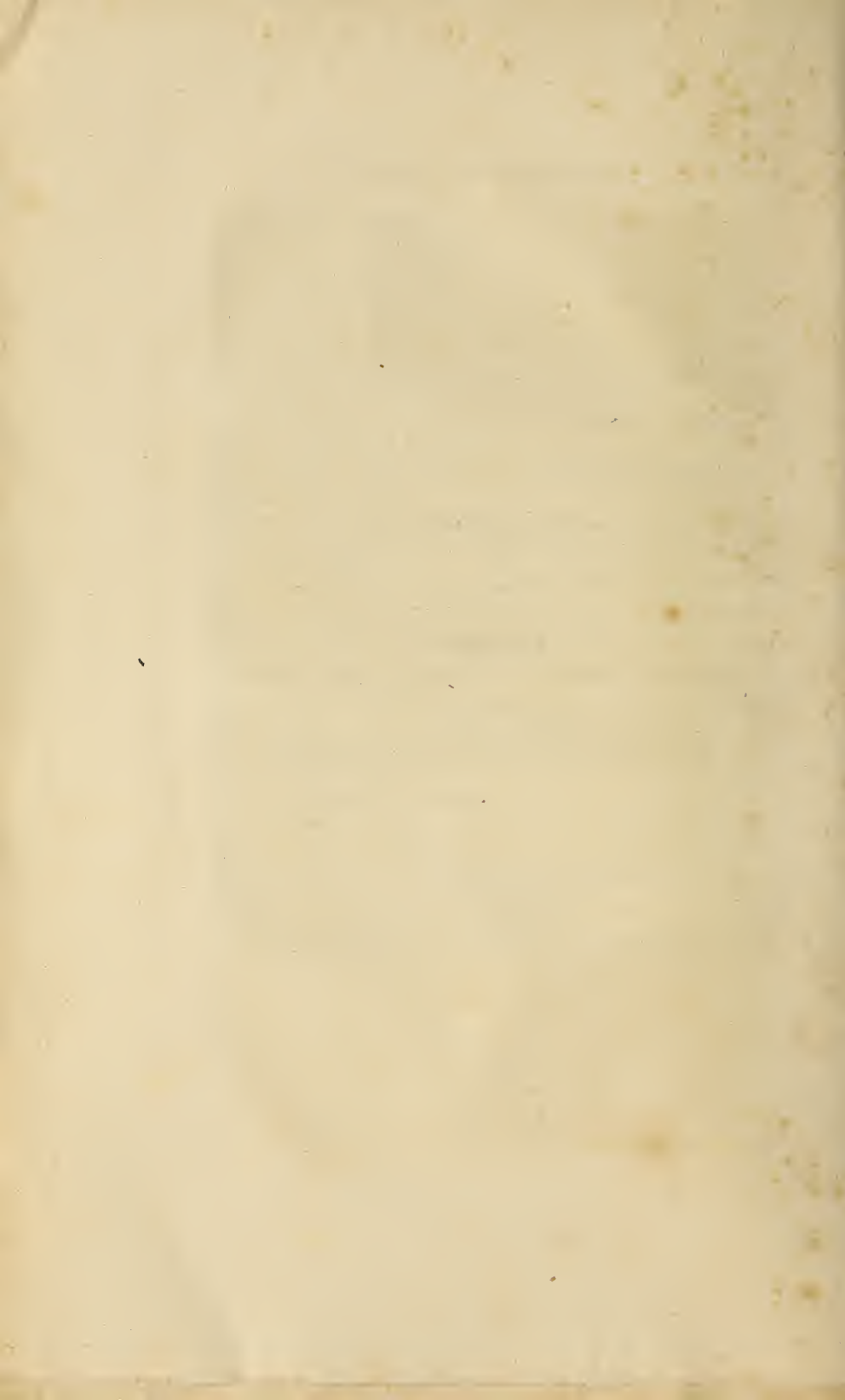
AN ACCOUNT

OF

PARIS

AT

THE CLOSE OF THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY.



INTRODUCTION.

THIS tract was chiefly written to satisfy my own curiosity, and to delight myself with the remembrance of what I had once seen. I busied myself in a place where I had little else to do than to walk up and down, well knowing that the character of a stranger gave me free admittance to men and things. The French value themselves upon their courtesy, and in building, as well as in dress, study appearances more than utility or comfort. This propensity renders the curiosity of strangers perfectly easy and agreeable to them.

But why, you ask me, do you trouble us with an account of Paris, a place so well known already to every person here? For this very good reason, I reply, that I may be spared the trouble of perpetually repeating the story of what I had seen. You rejoin, we already know whatever you can say, or if not, we can read it in "The Present State of France," or in the "Description of Paris," books which may be purchased in every shop in London. This is perfectly

true, you may so ; and if you are desirous to have a just comprehension of the grandeur of the Court of France, and the immense extent of the city of Paris, you will do well not to neglect these books. I myself put on these spectacles, but I found that they did not suit my eyes ; I chose to see without their assistance, and thought that neither microscopes nor magnifying glasses were necessary in viewing mighty cities, or magnificent palaces.

That you may not, however, be alarmed, reader, I pledge myself neither to trouble you with politics, nor with the ceremonies of church or state ; for I was engaged with none of these willingly, but only as they forced themselves into the conversation, or as I was constrained to participate in them. You will readily find by the general character of my remarks, that I am less disposed to dominion than to nature, and that I took far greater pleasure in seeing M. Breman in his white waistcoat, employed in digging in the royal physic garden, and sowing his hot-beds, than M. Saintot clearing the way for an ambassador ; and that I found myself more inclined, and more able to learn the names and physiognomy of a hundred plants, than of five or six princes. And I must confess that I would much rather walk a hundred paces under the meanest hedge in Languedoc, than in the most finished alley at Versailles, or St. Cloud ; so much do I give the preference to pure nature and a warm sun, above the most exquisite performances of art in a cold and barren climate.

Another reason which I have to assign for not troubling you with the affairs of state is that I was

no more concerned in the conduct of the embassy^a, than in directing the course of the vessel which conveyed me to France. It is quite enough for me to enjoy, with the rest of the good people of England, the happy effects of it, and to be allowed to pass away the remainder of this life in peace and quietness. It is a fortunate turn for their subjects, when kings become friends again. This was the result of the embassy, and I hope the peace^b will last as long as we live.

My Lord ambassador^c was infinitely caressed by the French king, his ministers, and all the princes.

^a The embassy here spoken of was sent to negotiate the treaty of the peace, which from the house where the negotiations were carried on and which belonged to king William, was called the Treaty or Peace of Ryswick.

^b Its duration barely exceeded three years; for at the death of king James, which happened on the 6th of September, 1701, Lewis not only acknowledged his son to be the king of England, but prevailed on the king of Spain, the Pope, and the Duke of Savoy to do the same. This being justly regarded by the British Court as a direct violation of the Treaty of Ryswick, the Earl of Manchester was ordered to leave Paris without asking for an audience, and war was proclaimed.

^c The Earl of Pembroke—of whom Bishop Burnet says, that he was a man of eminent virtue, and of great and profound learning, particularly in the mathematics. He adds, that there was something in his person and manners that created an universal respect for him, and that there was no individual whom all parties so much loved and honoured as they did him.

This character for the mild virtues, which endear the possessor of them to all descriptions of persons, belonged

Undoubtedly the French are the most polite people in the world, and can praise and court with a better air than the rest of mankind.

The kingdom in general was, by the necessities to which it was reduced, well disposed for peace; and although at our first arrival some disbanded offi-

in an eminent degree to the predecessors of this amiable nobleman. William, in particular, is commemorated by Clarendon, as having been the most universally beloved and esteemed of any man of his time; that historian goes on to say, that he had a great number of friends of the best men, and that no one had the boldness to declare himself his enemy; that he was exceedingly beloved in the court, where he was always ready to promote the pretensions of worthy men; and equally celebrated in the country, for having been uncorrupted by the court; that he was a great lover of his country, its religion and laws, and that his friendships were confined to men of similar principles: that he died exceedingly lamented by men of all qualities. He concludes the sketch with the following extraordinary narrative, which, he says, he received from a person of known integrity: this person, being in his way to London, met at Maidenhead Sir Ch. Morgan, a general in the army; Field, Bishop of St. David's, and Dr. Chafin, a favourite of the Earl, and his domestic chaplain. At supper one of them drank the health of the Earl; upon which another said, that he believed his lordship was at that time very merry, for he had now outlived the day, which his tutor Sandford had prognosticated upon his nativity he would not outlive; but he had done it now, for that was his birth-day, which had completed his age to fifty years.—The next morning, when they arrived at Colebrook, they met with the news of his death; which was caused the evening before by apoplexy, after eating a hearty supper.—History of the Rebellion, vol. i. p. 57-8.

cers^d were found to grumble, yet even these were satisfied before we returned home.

^d The military men in France complained of the treaty as base and dishonourable. In England, the adherents of James were confounded at it, because Lewis persisted in assuring him to the last moment, that he would never abandon his interests. Of this, king James's queen was so confident, that she informed the party here, that England would be left out of the treaty, and would have to maintain the war alone. And when she was told by the French king, that the treaty was ratified, she made this bold repartee—"that she wished it might be such, as should raise his glory as much as it might settle his repose."—It is the fate of public measures to receive condemnation or applause according to the interest or caprice of individuals. In the following reign when the confederate war broke out, all commerce with France was prohibited, and a sad duty was imposed on French wines. This caused heavy complaints among the *topers*, who had great interest in parliament, and pretended to be poisoned by port wine. Mr. Portman Seymour, a jovial companion, General Churchill, brother to the Duke of Marlborough, a lover of wine, Mr. Pereira, a Jew and smell-feast, and other hard drinkers, declared the want of French wine was not to be endured, and that they could hardly bear up under so great a calamity. These were joined by Dr. Aldridge, who was nick-named the priest of Bacchus, and by Dr. Radcliffe, a physician of great reputation, who ascribed all diseases to the want of French wines, and who, though very rich, and much addicted to wine, yet being extremely covetous, bought the cheaper wines, but imputed the badness of his wine to the war, and the difficulty of getting better, though the wags attributed all his complaints to his avarice. All these were for peace rather than war, and all the bottle companions, many physicians, and great numbers of the

The embassy left London on the 10th of December, and reached France in safety after a tedious passage in bad weather. I myself was detained by sickness at Boulogne, and staid there five days after the company, until my fever was abated, so that I did not arrive at Paris till the first of January. Yet notwithstanding the roughness of the weather and the fatigue of travelling, I was perfectly cured of my cough in ten days, nor had I the least return of it during the whole winter, although it was as severe there as I ever felt it in England. It was chiefly on account of my cough that I left London at that time of the year, for I had thrice before experienced the great benefit of the French air, and had therefore for many years longed for an opportunity of visiting France, but the continuance of the war was an insuperable obstacle to my desires. The first opportunity therefore which offered itself I readily embraced, and this was my Lord Portland's acceptance of my attendance on him

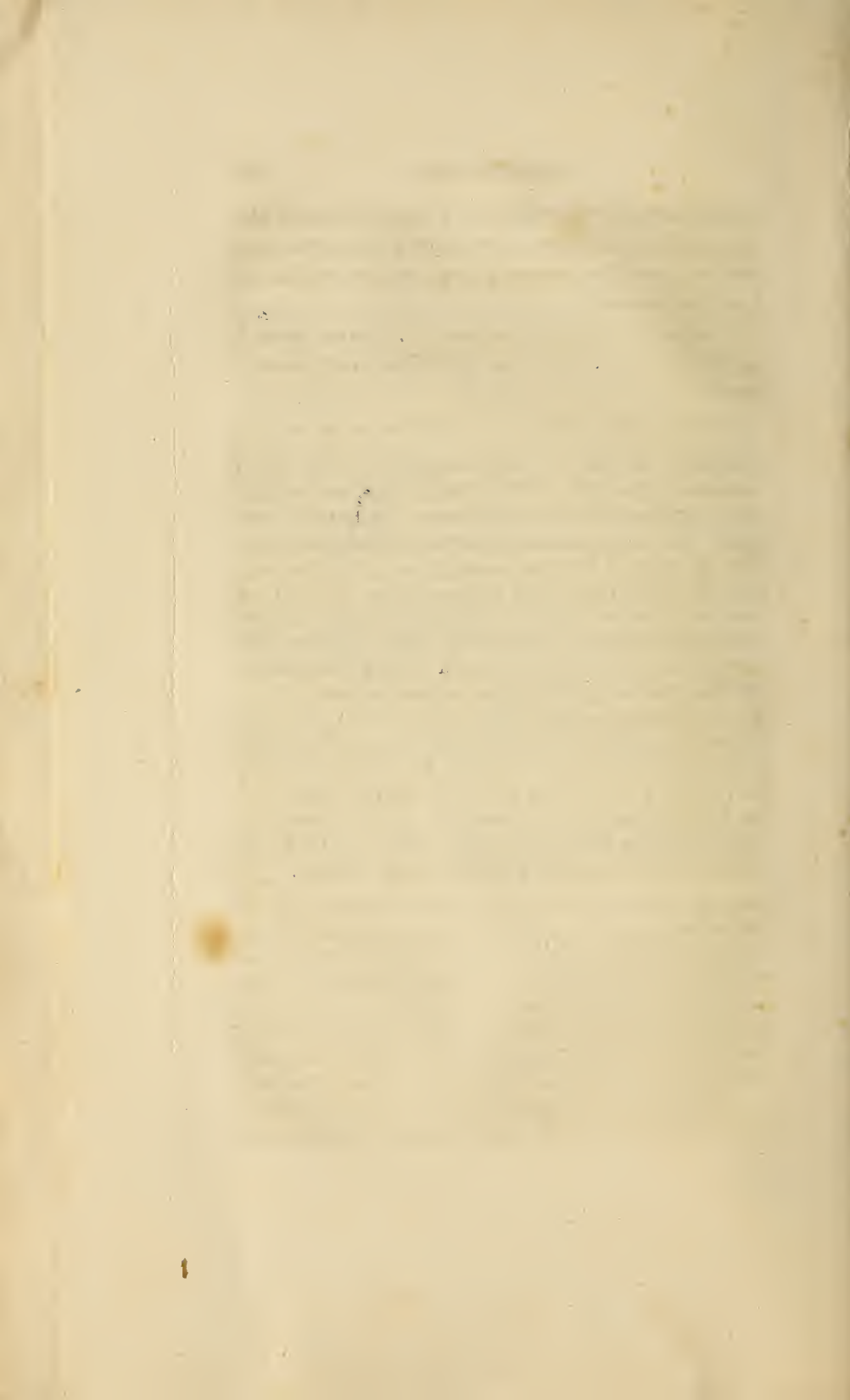
lawyers and inferior clergy, and even the cyprians, were united together in the faction against the Duke of Marlborough. —Burnet.—Cunningham.

• The Earl of Portland was one of the three plenipotentiaries. He was a native of Holland, and came over at the Revolution, with the Prince of Orange. Prior to that time he had been the confidential servant of the prince, and had been employed by him on some very important occasions. In the year 1689 he was created Earl of Portland, and made Groom of the Stole. For ten years he was entirely trusted by the king, and served him with great fidelity and obsequiousness, but was never a favourite of the English nation, probably from their jealousy of, and contempt for

in his extraordinary embassy. I was directed by him to go before with one of my good friends, who was sent to make the necessary preparations before his Lordship's arrival.

Now for the sake of clearness in relating what I saw at Paris, I will arrange the subject under distinct heads.

foreigners. He was at length supplanted in the king's confidence by Keppel, who from being a page, was, without any pretensions whatever, raised to the dignity of an earl, by the title of Albemarle, and had the disposal of all grants. This the Earl of Portland resented, and being disgusted with the manifest superiority of favour which his rival had acquired during his absence, he made some slight infringement upon his office of Groom of the Stole, the pretence for laying down his employments, and retiring from Court. The king used every method, but in vain, to induce him to depart from this resolution. His Lordship did not, however, decline the service of his master, but accepted of foreign employments from him, and retained his attachment to the last; so that when the king was at the point of death, and the Earl, who had been summoned to attend, arrived, the voice of the king failing him, he took him by the hand, and carried it to his heart with great tenderness.—Burnet.



CHAP. I.

OF PARIS IN GENERAL.

ALTHOUGH during the six months^f which I spent in Paris, I had much leisure, yet the inclemency

^f The tardiness of the negociations is thus accounted for by Burnet. The treaty went on slowly till Harlai the chief of the French plenipotentiaries came to the Hague; it was believed that he had the secret, he shewed a fairer inclination than the rest to treat frankly and honourably, and to clear all the difficulties that had been started before. But while they were negotiating by exchanging papers, the Marshal Boufflers desired a conference with the Earl of Portland, and by the order of their masters they met four times, and were long alone. Lord Portland afterwards told Burnet that the subject of their conference was king James. It was at length settled, that James should retire to Avignon, and that £50,000, the jointure of his queen, should be paid her at once. A cotemporary French writer places the matter in much the same point of view. "Another difficulty, real or pretended," he says, "was the acknowledgement of William's title. When the French plenipotentiaries had promised that the king their master should own him for king of Great Britain, they appeared to set a great value

of the season confined me for some time. On this account partly, and partly because I have no taste for building and painting, I did not see the tenth part of what deserved not only to be seen, but minutely examined. Yet I inspected the city in all its parts, I made the circuit of it, and took several prospects of it at a distance ; and I am compelled to acknowledge that it is one of the most beautiful and magnificent in Europe. A city, in and around which, a stranger might find novelties enough for his daily amusement for at least six months.

Without entering into the common but useless dispute as to the number of the inhabitants, or the dimensions of this noble city compared with London, I perfectly recollect that, when the Ambassador made his public entry, the crowd that was collected to see the procession was so enormous, that our people were startled at it, and were, when the subject was discussed, ready to concede the point in favour of Paris.

The curiosity of the Parisians, however, requires to be made a part of the consideration, for they are inordinately fond of pageantry, far more so than the citizens of London, and it really seemed as if they had all flocked to the cavalcade. One circumstance was an evident and convincing argument of the truth

on that concession, and assumed, that it ought to have the effect of softening him as to other articles to which Lewis was adverse. But William replied with warmth, "that they might erase that article, and treat of the others, for that, that did not deserve to hinder them."

Annales de Cour et de Paris pour l' ann. 1697-98.

of this propensity, namely, that there were several hundred carriages of persons of the first quality, some even of peers and bishops, which were placed so as to line the streets in file, and had been in that situation for several hours.

It is also most certain, that for the quantity of ground possessed by the common people, this city is much more populous than any part of London; here are from four to five and even ten Menages, or distinct families in many houses; this, however, is only to be understood of certain places in trade. There is also this difference between the two cities, that here the palaces and convents have abolished the dwellings of the people, and crowded them excessively together, occupying far the greatest part of the ground; whereas in London the contrary may be observed, viz. that the people have destroyed the palaces, and seated themselves upon the foundations of them, and forced the nobility to live in squares or streets, in a sort of community; this, however, they have done very honestly, having fairly purchased them.

The views of the river Seine from different parts of the city are admirable, particularly from the Pont-neuf downwards to the Tuilleries, or from the Pont-royal upwards; also from Pont St. Bernard, the Greve, &c. This river, which passes through the midst of the city, has its banks every where lined with large free stone; in the very centre of the city it incloses two islands, which communicate with the city by many very beautiful bridges. Of these islands,

that which is called l' Isle du Palais was for several ages the whole of Paris.

The houses are either entirely built of hewnstone, or of stone less accurately finished; of the latter, the walls are rough-cast. At the beginning of the reign of the present king, some houses were built both of brick and stone, as the Place-Royal, Place-Dauphin, &c. that mode is however now entirely discontinued. In some few instances, as in the Abbey of St. Germain, the plaister front is made to resemble brick-work.

The houses are every where high and stately; the churches numerous but not large, the towers and steeples but few in proportion to the churches. Some of the churches are finished with that noble way of steeple-building by domes or cupolas, which has a surprising effect in prospect: that of the Val de Grace, des Invalides, College Mazarin, De l' Assumption, the Grand Jesuits, La Sorbonne, and some few others are examples of this.

All the houses of persons of distinction are built with port-cochées, that is, wide gates to allow of carriages being driven in; there are consequently courts within the gates, and generally remises, or coach-houses, to protect them from the weather. Of these gate-ways, there are estimated to be more than seven hundred, very many of which have the pillars carved and formed after the most noble patterns of ancient architecture.

The lowest windows of all the houses are secured with strong iron bars, which must have been attended with a vast expence.

As the houses are magnificent on the outside, so the decorations within are elegant and sumptuous. The gildings, carvings, and paintings of the ceilings, are admirable in point of workmanship and finishing; while the hangings of rich tapestry, raised with threads of gold and silver; the beds of crimson damask and velvet, or of gold and silver tissue; cabinets and bureaux of ivory, inlaid with tortoise-shell; and gold and silver ornaments in a great variety of fashions; branches of crystal and candlesticks of the same, and, above all, most rare pictures, declare the costliness and grandeur of the furniture.

Displays of this sort are, in Paris and its vicinity, in such variety and excess, that you cannot enter the private dwellings of men of any substance without being struck with them; so that it is no uncommon thing, for the gentry to ruin themselves in these expences, for every one who has any thing to spare, is uneasy till he has laid it out in the purchase of sculpture or paintings, the productions of some eminent artist. And this has been observed to be more particularly the case with individuals, who have become suddenly rich by inheritance, or other means. The whole is immediately expended in the purchase of ornamental furniture, or in the decorations of a garden; so that it is scarcely conceivable, what a vast variety of fine things there is to gratify and delight the curious stranger. Yet after all, there are so many utensils and conveniences of life, which are common in England, wanting here, that M. Justall, a Parisian, told me he had made a catalogue of such deficiencies, and that they were threescore in number.

The streets are paved with square stones, about eight or ten inches in thickness, so that they are as deep in the ground, as they are broad at top; the gutters are without edges, so that carriages glide easily over them. The streets, however, are very narrow, and people on foot are not secured from the hurry and danger of coaches, which always pass with an air of haste; nor is the noise made by a full trot upon broad flat stones, and between lofty and resounding houses, so pleasing to the ears of strangers, as it would seem to be to the Parisians.

The royal palaces are surprisingly stately, particularly the Louvre, the Tuilleries, the Palais Luxembourg, and the Palais Royal.

The convents are spacious, well built, and numerous; the squares are few, but greatly admired, particularly the Place Royal; Place Victoire, Place Dauphin, which is the least of all except the Place Vendosme, and that is in an unfinished state.

The gardens, which are within the walls of the city and thrown open to the public, are of large extent, and extremely beautiful; of these the principal are the Tuilleries, the Palais Royal, Luxembourg, the royal physic garden, that of the Arsenal, and many others belonging to the convents.

But that which renders a residence in this city particularly agreeable to people of quality, is the facility of driving into the fields which lie around in all directions, and the avenues to which are well paved. These places of airing are perfectly clean, and the drives are either open or shaded, as the time of the day, the season of the year, or the inclination of individuals

may require. The Cour de la Reyne, Bois de Bologne, Bois de Vincennes, Les Sables, de Vaugerarde are the principal of these.

But to descend to a more particular review of this great city, I think it not amiss to speak first of the streets and public places, and what may be seen in them; in the next place of the houses of greatest note, and what curiosities of nature or art they contain; also of the individuals with whom I conversed, and the museums and libraries to which I had access. In the next place I shall speak of the diet of the Parisians and their recreations; then of the gardens and their furniture and ornaments; and lastly, of the air of Paris, the health of the citizens, and the present state of physic and pharmacy there.

CHAP. II.

OF THE STREETS AND PUBLIC PLACES, AND THE OBJECTS THAT ARE TO BE SEEN IN THEM.

THE carriages here are very numerous, and much embellished with gilding; there are very few of them, and none except those of the prime nobility, that are large and have a double seat. But what they want in the size, beauty and neatness of ours in London, is amply compensated by their superior ease, and by the facility with which they turn in the narrowest streets. They are all crane-necked, with the fore-wheels very small, not exceeding two feet and a half in diameter. By this contrivance, they are not only easy to be entered, but the coach-box is brought down so low, that the prospect through the front glasses is but little impeded; while in the London carriages, the high-seated coachman is always in the point of view. Another advantage which they possess is, that they are hung with double springs at each of the four corners, which insensibly break or prevent all jolts; and this extends even to the fiacres, or hackney-coaches. I never

was so sensible of the comfort of riding in French carriages, to which I had now been accustomed some months, as when I had occasion to ride in one of the easiest belonging to the Ambassador, and which was very recently brought from England. In this, every inequality in the road was felt in such a degree, that it was less fatiguing to ride six hours in a French carriage, than one only in this.

In addition to the vast number of coaches which are kept by the nobility and gentry, there are carriages de remise ; these, which are let out by the month, are handsomely gilt, and have good horses, and neat harness. They are hired by strangers by the day or the month, at the rate of fifteen shillings a day. The remise is so much in request that it deprives the hackney coaches and chairs of their business ; indeed these last are the most nasty and miserable voitures, (vehicles) that can be imagined, and yet they are nearly as dear again as carriages of that description are in London. Fortunately there are but few of them.

There is still another vehicle used in this city, of which I should have been glad to omit the mention, thinking it at first sight either very scandalous or a burlesque ; it is the vinegrette ; it is mounted on two wheels, and drawn by a man, and pushed behind by a woman, or boy, or both. In so magnificent a city, this is a wretched business, and unworthy the people or the place. There are also, for quick travelling, post chaises for single persons, and rouillons for two ; these run on two wheels, and have double springs which render their motion very easy. They go with great speed, and are drawn by two horses, one of

which is in the thills. The rouillon is mounted by the driver, but he rides one of the horses in the post-chaise. Neither of these vehicles are in use in England, but might be introduced to good purpose.

As for their recreations and walks, there are no people more fond of meeting together for the sake of conversation, and to see others and be seen themselves. This is their principal occupation, and in the pursuit of it the Cour de la Reyne is frequented by all people of condition. It is a treble row of trees, with a drive and two walks; one of the walks being on the bank of the Seine. The drive is sufficiently capacious to allow of eight files of carriages; in the centre is a very large circle to admit of their turning, and at each end is an ample and magnificent gate. They who would have freer and purer air, drive to the Bois de Bologne, or Vincennes; indeed there is scarcely any direction in which this accommodation is not afforded. They who prefer walking, go to the Tuilleries, the Luxembourg, and the other gardens belonging to the king and princes; all of which are very spacious, and fitted up with convenient seats for the accommodation of all classes of society, the lacqueys and the mob excepted. Of this, however, I shall say more hereafter.

Of all classes of society, none make a better figure than the bishops, who have very splendid equipages, and a variety of handsome liveries. Most of them are men of family, and to that they owe their preferment; for learning is a less necessary qualification for those dignities in France than with us; many of them are, however, very learned and deserving men. I

observed that they are chiefly noblemen, or at least the younger sons of the best families. This indeed may be for the honour of the church, but it is very doubtful whether it tends to the advancement of learning, or the promotion of piety. They may be the patrons of learned men, yet there are but few examples of erudition among them. It were to be desired that they as much exceeded others in merit, as they do in birth.

The Abbots are numerous here, and resort from all parts of the kingdom to the capital. They also make a considerable figure, being a more genteel sort of clergy, and only second to the bishops. They are by far the most eminent for learning, and have been so reputed from the time of Cardinal^e Richlieu, who

^e This eminent statesman was the prime, or rather sole minister of Lewis xiii. His genius, while he stripped the French of their liberties, conferred on them learning, discipline, and glory. It is a fact, admitted by all historians, that the great rebellion in England was the effect of his machinations with the Scotch. The provocations which he had received were rather personal than national; and to be revenged on Charles, and his Queen, and the Duke of Buckingham, he had recourse to those measures of force and fraud which were but too successful. He was the tyrant of the king his master, and of all the nobility in the kingdom. Many splendid national works were performed during his administration, and he left France more flourishing and vigorous than he found it. His insolence and display of wealth caused him numerous enemies, who conspired against his power and life, but he died a natural death at the age of 58, and preserved his ascendancy to the last. Many sarcastic epitaphs were written on him, of which I will here insert two:

selected men of the greatest talents and acquirements, to fill these dignities. This he did very frankly, without their even knowing his design before hand, much less soliciting preferment of him. He took a sure way, and one peculiar to himself, which was to inquire privately for men of desert, and to take his own time for preferring them. By these means he filled France with learned men, and gave great encouragement to study.

It is surprising to observe the discipline in which the King keeps this great city, by exacting obedience on small occasions. He issued an order, that the citizens should all take down the signs^b over their

On the Ten Thousand Lights at Card. Richlieu's Funeral:

“ France is at length from fetters freed,
 And Richlieu stretch'd on bier;
 But why to hell when we proceed,
 Needs so much light appear?”
 “ Now, Richlieu, fate has cut thy thread,
 And number'd thee among the dead,
 Men rail till out of breath:
 But freed from envy, spleen and strife,
 However I might hate thy life,
 I much approve thy death.”

^a In the beginning of the last century there was scarcely a shop without an appropriate sign, nor were these emblems disallowed in England until an express Act of Parliament had passed. Before this change took place, the universal use of signs furnished the inferior rank of painters with no small employment: sometimes too the superior artists were engaged. There was even a market for signs, suitable to all trades and customers, and ready for use, in Harp Alley, Shoe Lane,---Edwards's Anecd. of Painters.

shops, at once, and that for the future no sign should exceed a certain standard, nor project more than a foot or two from the walls. This order was immediately and cheerfully¹ obeyed; so that the signs being

¹ The adulation and obsequiousness of the French to their sovereign, in this reign in particular, was carried to an extreme at once serious and ludicrous, to an excess unheard of in Europe. The king lamented to an Abbé the loss of his teeth one after another. "Sire," said the latter, "who has any teeth?" On another occasion, the king when he was sixty, asked a courtier, what was his age? He replied, "and please your majesty, I am the age of every body, I am sixty." It was generally known that Lewis was afflicted with a malady, the fistula, which, in point of delicacy, patients are desirous to conceal. But the good people of Paris were desirous of being thought to labour under the same disease as their king, and even applied to the surgeons, pressing them to perform the operation, and when they were informed that no complaint existed, they went away angry. So that fistula became a fashionable disease, and we find the surgeons of the time complaining, that their patients, whatever might be their complaints, would be examined for fistula. And all this from their excessive complaisance to a monarch, who was afterwards as much despised, as he had been adored, and at whose funeral the only demonstrations were those of joy. At the close of his life he was abandoned by the Jesuit Tellier, his confessor, who left the royal penitent to settle his peace with heaven by himself, while he made his court to the rising sun; the Duke de Maine, the successor, was otherwise occupied than in waiting on a dying parent; and old Madame de Maintenon quitted him *four days before his death*. The people publicly expressed their satisfaction at his death, and the court was afraid to let the funeral procession pass through the city, lest insults should be offered to the corpse; and in one of the bye-roads, through which the procession

very small in their dimensions, and raised very high, no longer obscure or incommode the streets.

There are in Paris great numbers of hotelleries, or hotels, by which term is meant public inns, where lodgings are let. But by a confusion of names, the houses of noblemen and gentlemen are called the same; these, however, have for the most part, titles over the gate in letters of gold, on black marble. Yet the term seems to imply that they came at first to Paris as strangers only, and resided at public inns, but at length built inns or houses for themselves. It is certain that a great and wealthy city cannot be without people of quality, nor can there be such a court as that of France, without a constant knowledge of what such people do. But the question is, whether they can be spared from the country? The common people of England seem to have less manners and religion, where the gentry have left them wholly to themselves; the taxes also are raised with more difficulty, inequality and injustice, when the land pro-

went, *onions* were distributed as necessary to draw forth tears for the death of such a king, whom they surnamed the bad, and loaded his memory with execrations. The satirical and sarcastic verses which were published at his death were innumerable. The following may be taken as a specimen, and is among the most moderate :

If France, O Lewis, now thy soul is fled,
Weep not, but seems of feeling quite bereft;
So many tears throughout thy reign she shed,
That, quite exhausted, not another's left.

D'Alembert, Mem. de M. le Duc de Richlieu.
M. Dionis.

prietors are absent, than when they reside upon their demesnes ^k.

It may well be, that within the last forty years, Paris is in a manner a new city; it is certain, that since the present king came to the crown, it is so much altered for the better, as to be quite another place; and if that which the workmen told me be true, viz. that a common house, built of stone, and plaistered over, will not last above twenty-five years, the greatest part of the city has been lately rebuilt.

Between the bridges in the river, are vast numbers of boats laden with wood, hay, charcoal, corn and wine, and other commodities. Occasionally, when a sudden thaw takes place, these boats are driven against the bridges, which are in danger of being ruined by the shock; not unfrequently the boats are crushed to pieces by the concussion, and great losses have been sustained by the owners. In consequence of these accidents, it has been proposed to form a large basin near the city for a winter harbour; but, as the measure affords no prospect of emolument to the government, the individuals who are interested

^k Queen Elizabeth was so sensible of this truth, that when she observed the increase of London, which she did with regret, she issued a proclamation prohibiting new buildings. This her successor often renewed in the course of his reign, and even *menaced* the gentry who lived in town. He was wont, says Lord Bacon, to be very earnest with the country gentlemen to go from London to their country seats: "Gentlemen," he would say, "at London you are like ships in a sea, which show like nothing; but in your country villages, you are like ships in a river, which look like great things."

are left to execute the project themselves, Farming the taxes is admirably well understood here; and no speculations are so likely to succeed, as those which will increase the revenue.

Among the living objects which are to be seen in the streets of Paris, none make a more remarkable and distinct figure than the counsellors, and chief officers of the courts of justice. They and their wives have their trains carried up, and in this manner there are vast numbers of them seen parading the streets. It is on this account that places of this nature sell¹

¹ This practice of making a traffic of the offices of judicature was of long standing when Lewis the ixth. surnamed St. Lewis, endeavoured to abolish it as unworthy of a king, and tending to great abuses. But his successors reviving it, made public sale of the offices, and filled them with the highest bidders; such as were not sold, were held by commissioners revocable at the pleasure of the king. Afterwards they were made perpetual, and only became vacant by death, resignation, or misbehaviour; this last was called forfeiture. Lewis the xiith. personally, and Francis the first, and Henry the ii. publicly sold these offices; but Henry the iii. went beyond them. Henry the iv. rendered them hereditary on condition that the holder should pay every year the sixtieth denier of the price, which was called the *Annual Right*. These offices were termed the *Paulette*, and the officers *Pauletters*, from one Paulet who invented it.—Vasor; Hist. du Regne de Louis xiii.

The following account of the heirship and venality of Judicial Officers in France is given by Mr. Butler in his *Reminiscences*: When the king established a new court of justice, the number of judges and magistrates was fixed, and the sums to be paid by them for grants of their respective offices. The candidates petitioned the king for them, the

so well; for a man, having a right to qualify a wife with this honour, may command a fortune. A similar privilege is that of carrying to church a large velvet cushion. For the enjoyment of this, the appointment of a lawyer is valued at one third the more.

In the streets are also to be seen great numbers and various orders of Monks, in habits that, to us Englishmen, are strange and unusual. They make an odd figure, but serve well to fill up the scene and give a finish to it. Some of the orders are clothed decently enough, such as the Jesuits, the Fathers of the Oratory, &c. but most of them are very peculiar and obsolete in their dress, preserving the rustic habit of ancient times, without linen, or any of the ornaments of the present age.

I cannot divest myself of compassion for the mistaken zeal of these poor men, who, renouncing the world, put themselves into religion as they call it,

grants were made by letters under the great seal, and from that time the offices were hereditary in the family of the grantee, who might in his life-time, or his heirs after his decease, dispose of it by sale. When the sale of an office took place, the purchaser petitioned the crown for the grant of it, and when the grant was signed he paid, besides the price which the vendor was to receive for it, a sum of money, varying from one to two thousand crowns, into the royal treasury. And this sum on any subsequent sale was returned to him or his heirs. Great care was, however, taken that the purchaser should be properly qualified, that he should have taken a degree in the civil and canon law, undergo a most strict examination, belong to families of great respectability, and possess a fortune, placing him considerably above want.

and impose upon themselves the most rigid and severe rules of diet and life. As to their meagre and miserable fare, ^m it is in direct opposition to nature, and the improved mode of living among civilized nations. The Mosaic law, which provided far better for the Jews, was instituted to promote health and cleanliness. And as to the Christian law, although it enjoins humility, patience under sufferings, and mortification for, and abstinence from sinful gratifications; yet it by no means confines us to any distinct, much less to unwholesome food, but grants the liberty to eat any thing whatsoever. It is enough, if we must suffer persecution, to endure it and all the miserable circumstances that attend it with patience; but wantonly ⁿ to persecute ourselves, is to offer violence to

^m This mistaken zeal is justly reprehended in the following Epigram by Vincentius Guinisiuſ :

Quid juvat exiguis jejunia ponere mensis,
Et sese tenui debilitare cibo ?

Si gravis est vitiis animus, si pectus onustum
Criminibus, satias si tibi nulla mali est :

Non domat is corpus, dapibus qui parcit opimis:
Qui vitiis animum non alit, ille domat.

* A singular mode of self-persecution, adopted by these fanatics, was that of whipping themselves by way of penance. It is said that Pandulphus, an abbot, who lived in the 8th century, caused himself to be whipped daily during Lent, but it does not appear to have been a voluntary discipline till the eleventh century. It is an historical fact, that in the year 1174, Henry the 2d. disrobed himself before a chapter of monks at Canterbury, and putting a scourge of discipline into the hands of each, presented his bare shoulders to the lashes which these ecclesiastics successively

the mild spirit of christianity, and to place ourselves in a far worse state than the Jews themselves were in. To choose the worst food, such as sour herbs, slimy fish, and such like trash ; to lie upon bare boards ; to

inflicted on him. At about this time the practice was carried to a great extreme, and it is recorded of a monk named Rodolphus, and of one Dominicus, that they every day repeated an entire psalm, and whipped themselves cruelly the whole time, thinking that by twenty of these performances they would redeem a hundred years penance.

At one time it was usual for penitents after confession to receive this discipline from the hands of their confessor ; even kings submitted to it, nor did female delicacy restrain that timid sex from submitting to the lash. Of this there is an amusing story on record : a man having followed his wife to confession, and seeing the confessor lead her behind the altar to give her the discipline, exclaimed, My God, my poor wife is too tender, I had rather receive the discipline for her ; and that having fallen on his knees for this purpose, his wife said to the confessor, " Beat him hard, Father, for I am a great sinner."

This mode of doing penance grew so much into fashion and request, that in the year 1260, a sect sprang up called Flagellants, or whippers, and multitudes of people of all ages and quality, and both sexes, ran through the towns and fields whipping themselves severely. There were even fraternities and processions of these enthusiasts in France, until they were suppressed by the Parliament of Paris in the year 1601. At Madrid there was a similar sect who were clad in white, and wore a long and high monk's cowl, and who whipt themselves as they walked the streets with cords full of knots, at the end of which were small balls of wax with fragments of glass stuck in them for the purpose of drawing blood from their hides. This discipline they generally practised on Holy Thursday and Good Friday.

use coarse and unclean woollen frocks for cloathing ; to go barefoot in a cold country ; to deny themselves the comforts of life, and the society of mankind ; is to undermine the health, to renounce the greatest blessings of this life, and in a manner to commit suicide. These men cannot but be chagrined and out of humor with the world, and must in time grow weary of such slavish and fruitless devotion, which is not even alleviated by an active life. Nor are they consistent with themselves in thus neglecting the care and cleanliness of their persons, while they preserve their churches so clean, adorn them so pompously, and even perfume them.

Such is the vast multitude of poor wretches in all parts of this city, that whether a person is in a carriage, or on foot, in the street or even in a shop, he is alike unable to transact business on account of the importunities of mendicants. It is indeed very lamentable to behold them, and to hear the recital of their miseries, but if you venture to relieve one, you instantly bring down a whole swarm of them upon you. These are monks indeed, and not from choice but necessity ; they find the evil of the day sufficient, and neither invite nor make a mockery of the miseries of this life. They offer their prayers for a farthing, and for a morsel of bread will make a saint ° of any one.

° This seems to have been an ancient and successful expedient for provoking charity. Shew him a roll, says Burton, in which his name shall be registered in golden letters, and his bounty commended to all posterity, his arms set up, and his devices to be seen, and then peradventure he will contribute.—Anatomy of Melancholy, p. 524.

Let us, however, leave these unhappy people, and reflect that health and courage are the natural effects of plenty of wholesome food, and that the exclusion from marriage of a particular class of the people ^p, proves a deduction from mankind but little less in degree than a constant war.

The public is but little disturbed in this city with cries of things to be sold, or with the hawkers of pamphlets ^q; and if any thing happens to be lost, the

^p It was Gregory vii. who in the year 1074 first compelled the clergy to a strict observance of celibacy. This his predecessors had attempted without success. He caused a council to decree that all the sacerdotal orders should abstain from marriage, and that such as already had wives should dismiss them, or quit the priestly office. This law was most strenuously opposed by the clergy, who complained loudly of its cruelty and severity, and many of them chose rather to give up their benefices than their wives. Even those who approved of the celibacy of the clergy, condemned the course taken by Gregory as unjust and criminal in dissolving the chastest bonds of wedlock, and thus involving husbands and wives with their tender offspring in disgrace, perplexity, anguish and want. And this law he subsequently confirmed under severer penalties. On this subject, a saying of Pius the second, who filled the pontifical chair several centuries after Gregory, is preserved, viz. "that there is great cause why the clergy should be deprived of marriage, but still greater cause why they should marry."

^q At this time it was the custom in London, for new publications to be announced in the streets by hawkers: to whom Pope alludes in the following lines:

What though my name stood rubric on the walls,
Or plaster'd posts, with claps, on capitals!
Or smoaking forth, a hundred hawkers' load,
On wings of winds came flying all abroad!

Prol. to the Satires, 215.

method of making it known is by placing papers at the corners of the streets with these words in great letters, Un, Deux, Cinq, Dix, jusq ; a Cinquante Louisse a gagner ; that is, from one to fifty Louises to be got ; then follows an account of what has been lost. This seems a good and quiet way of making public any loss, and the person who has found the property is thus informed where to repair with it, and to receive his reward.

Gazettes are issued but once in a week, and few individuals purchase them.

To publish a libel here without discovery is very difficult, and if discovered is very dangerous to its author. While I was at Paris, a new and ingenious method of disseminating a paper of this kind was employed : a certain person gave a bundle of libels to a blind beggar of the Quincevint, telling him that for every penny he might get five pence. He went during the service to Nôtre-Dame, and bawled out the title which was " La vie et miracles de l'Evesque de Rheims." As soon as the first purchasers had read the title further, and found that the libel was levelled against the Archbishop, who is also a duke, and first peer of the realm, it went off at any rate. This was a trick of the Jesuits, with whom the Archbishop had had a dispute concerning the doctrines of Molinas, a Spanish priest of that order.

Through the whole of the winter, as well when the moon shines as when it is dark, the streets are lit ; which I saw with the greater pleasure, because in London the practice is to discontinue the lights for half the month, as though the light of the moon was

sure not to be obscured by clouds. The lanterns here are suspended over the middle of the streets; they are about twenty feet high, and the same distance apart. They are formed of square glass about two feet deep, and are covered with a broad plate of iron. The rope which suspends them, is secured and locked up in an iron funnel inclosed in a small wooden trunk, which is fastened against the wall of the house. These lanterns have candles in them, four of which weigh a pound, and they continue to burn till after midnight. If any man chance to break one of these lanterns he is forthwith sent to the galleys^r, one instance of which offence and punishment occurred during our stay in Paris. Three young men of good families were committed to prison, for having in a frolic been guilty of this offence; they were detained there for several months, nor could they at last obtain their liberation, but by the continued intercession of some friends at court.

In the winter extraordinary care is taken to keep the streets clean; upon the giving out of a frost, a heavy machine which is drawn by a horse, makes a quick riddance of whatever obstructs the gutters, so that in the space of a day all parts of the town are made clean to admiration. I heartily wish I could commend equally their attention to cleanliness in summer, for it is certainly quite necessary to keep

^r The galley is proverbially considered as a place of toilsome misery, because criminals who are sentenced to it, are not only deprived of their liberty, but condemned to hard labour.—Johnson.

so populous a city sweet as well as clean ; no machine, however, that has yet been invented has power to effect this object, nor can any one be contrived that will prove effectual, unless it carries away all the inhabitants too. Inscriptions upon the walls, threats and even penalties, have been found useless. In one respect Paris has a great advantage over London during the summer ; which is, that it is not annoyed by dust. The reason of this exception is, that the streets being paved with square stones having a broad surface, require but little sand to give them steadiness. Whereas the streets in London, are pitched with irregularly shaped pebbles, which require a great quantity of sand, and this, when the wind blows, causes a dust that is always troublesome, and sometimes intolerable.

From the living, I will now turn to the dead ornaments in the streets. There is every where to be seen an infinite number of heads and busts of the Grand Monarque, which are erected by the citizens ; but scarcely any of the nobility, a circumstance which, considering the ability and obsequious disposition of the people, is surprising.

The statue of the king in the Place Victoire* is on foot, it is composed of brass but is gilded all over. Close behind is the statue of Victoire, that is, a female of vast size, with wings, holding a laurel crown over the head of the king, and resting one foot upon a globe. Great exceptions are taken by artists to the

* This statue is modestly inscribed " Viro Immortali,"
" To the immortal man."

gilding, the lustre of which spoils the features, and causes an indescribable confusion. If it had been made of pure gold and lacquered, the true lights and shades would have been reflected, and the eye of the spectator would have been enabled to judge of the proportions. But that which I chiefly dislike in this performance, is the *great woman* perpetually at the king's back; which, instead of expressing victory, seems to act as an incumbrance, and to fatigue him with her company. The Roman Victory^t was of a very different description: it was a small puppet, carried in the hand of the emperor, and which he could dispose of at pleasure. This woman is enough to give a man a surfeit.

The other statues are equestrian and of brass, and represent the three last kings of France. That on the Pont-neuf is of Henry IV. in armour; it is bare-headed, and habited according to the mode of the time. The second, which is in the Place Royale, is armed after the fashion of the age; on the head-piece is a plume of feathers. The third is the present king, Lewis XIV, and is designed for the Place Vendosme.

^t The Roman Victory was represented with wings, she had a laurel crown on her head, and the branch of a palm-tree in her hand. We are told by Plutarch, that when the Roman Victors rode in triumph, a slave sat behind them, occasionally striking them on the neck. The moral of which was twofold, viz. that they should remember themselves, and not be elated; and that the beholders should be encouraged to hope that, by emulating the valour of the victor, they may attain an equal dignity.

This Colossus of brass^u is still in the very place where it was cast; it is astonishingly large, the figure of

^u The effect of this statue is scarcely commensurate to the cost and trouble of making it. It seems to lose something by being compared with the very beautiful equestrian statue of Philip the iv. at the Buen Retiro at Madrid. The attitude of the horse is surprisingly bold, both his fore feet being in the air. Eighty-three thousand nine hundred and sixty-eight pounds of metal were employed in casting it. In an inventory of the effects of the Retiro it was valued at the enormous sum of £28,000. Its height including the pedestal, is nineteen feet nine inches. It was erected, very injudiciously, in a small flower garden belonging to the palace, and was some time ago proposed to be removed to a better situation, but the prime minister, Grimaldi, objected to it, unless the *head of Philip could be changed* for that of Charles the third!—Dillon's Travels through Spain, p. 77. ed. 2.

But the statue of Peter the Great at Petersburg is far more admired than either of these. The model of it was exhibited to the public for a year, to afford M. Falconet the artist an opportunity of hearing the remarks that might be made upon it. It represents the Czar on horseback, riding up a rock of granite. The figure of the monarch is eleven feet high, the dress is in the old Russian stile, with half boots, whiskers, and a shock head of hair surrounded with a laurel crown. The right arm is extended, the head is considered as a great likeness, and the whole attitude is noble and full of expression. The horse is executed in high perfection, animated with great fire and exertion, galloping up the rock, one hind foot treading on a snake. The statue is a cast, composed of bell-metal, copper, tin and zinc, the weight 44,041 Russian pounds, besides 10,000 pounds of iron in the hinder part of the horse for counterpoise. The pedestal is a mass of granite, which was conveyed by wonderful exertions of genius and mechanism several miles, notwithstanding the most formidable

the king being twenty-two feet in height, the foot twenty-six inches in length, and all the other proportions of the horse as well as its rider suitable. The weight of the metal which was melted for this statue was one hundred thousand pounds, of which eighty thousand was employed. It was cast all at once both for the king and the horse. M. Girardon, the statuary, told me that although he worked at the model

obstacles. After the superfluous parts were broken off by explosion, it was twenty-one feet high, twenty-one broad, thirty-eight long, and was computed to weigh three millions and two hundred thousand pounds.—Tooke's *Russia*, v. 1. p. 449.

How insignificant do these exertions of modern art appear when contrasted with the stupendous project of Dinocrates, who offered to convert Mount Athos, which was 150 miles in circumference, and so high that it overshadowed Lemnos which was eighty-seven miles off, into a statue of Alexander the Great! In the right hand of this inconceivable figure, a basin was to be held, capable of containing all the water that descended from the mountain; in the left a town with 10,000 inhabitants. That the plan was capable of execution appears from the nature of Alexander's objection to it, which was the want of sustenance for so many persons. Yet he greatly admired the design. Extravagant as this project was, Mr. Pope suggested the following expedient for carrying it into execution: The figure must be in a reclining posture, to take away the necessity of the hollowing, and to allow of the city being held in one hand. The hill should be rude and unequal, and might be assisted with groves of trees for the eye-brows, and a wood for the hair. The natural green turf should be left, wherever it should be necessary, to represent the ground he reclines on. It should be so contrived, that the true point of view should be at a considerable distance, at which one rising should be a leg,

daily and with great diligence, yet that he was engaged at it for the space of eight years; and that two more years were consumed in the moulding, in making the furnaces, and in casting the metal.

In this statue the king is arrayed in the habit of a Roman Emperor, and sits the horse without either stirrups or a saddle. But to confuse the whole, the head is covered with a large French periwig a-la-mode. I am quite at a loss to conjecture, upon what principles or precedent this confusion of costume is to be justified. It is very true that in building, it is commendable to follow with precision the ancient manner and simplicity, because the different orders were founded upon just principles in the mathematics; but the cloathing of an emperor was arbitrary. For Louis le Grand to appear at the head of his army, dressed as he is in this statue, would be thought strangely ludicrous. It seems as if the people of the present time are ashamed of the stile of their dress, yet no one will venture to affirm that the equestrian statues

another an arm. The lake should rather be at the bottom of the figure than at one side.—Spence's Anec. p. 208.

Having dwelt too long on these efforts of art which are chiefly remarkable for their bulk, I will take leave to prolong this note, for the sake of mentioning one, by way of contrast, at once remarkable for its minuteness and elegance. Theodorus, who is the first statuary on record, made a cast of himself in brass, which was a perfect likeness. In his right hand he held a file; in his left a carriage with four horses; the carriage, horses and driver were so minute, that the whole was covered by the wings of a fly.—Beloe's Herod: Clio, p. 51.

of Henry IV. and Lewis XIII.^w are the less to be valued for being arrayed in the true dress of their times.

I remember being at a levee of King Charles the second, when three models were brought to him, one of which was to be fixed upon for his statue designed for the court at Windsor, and for another statue about to be erected in the old Exchange at London. He chose the dress of a Roman Emperor; and the statue of king James at Chelsea College is habited in a similar manner.

Now I may securely appeal to all mankind, and ask, whether in representing a living prince of the present time, unclothed legs and arms are even decent, and whether there is not a want of refinement in it that is very disgusting? Charles the first,

^w The classical reader will not be displeased to see the following elegant epigram on this statue inserted here. The author of it is not known.

In Statuam equestrem Ludovici xiiij. positam Parisiis in circo regali.

Quod bellator hydros pacem spirare rebelles,
 Deplumes trepidare aquilas, mitescere pardos,
 Et depressa jugo submittere colla leones
 Despectat Lodoicus equo sublimis ahenos,
 Non digiti, non artifices finxere camini,
 Sed virtus, et plena Deo fortuna peregit:
 Armandus fidei vindex pacisque sequester,
 Augustum curavit opus, populisque verendam
 Regali voluit statuam consurgere circo;
 Ut post civilis depulsa pericula belli,
 Et circum domitos armis felicibus hostes,
 Æternum domina Lodoicus in urbe triumphet.

the father of these two kings, had the best taste of any prince of this age; he had also a sound judgment, particularly in painting and sculpture, and civil and naval architecture. Of this he furnished proofs, in the favour and munificence of which Rubens, and his disciple Vandyke were the objects; and in the great esteem which he had for the incomparable Inigo Jones, who was the first Englishman of the age that understood building. I heard M. Auzout the architect say, that the Banqueting-house at Whitehall was superior to any building on this side of the Alps; and as he had diligently studied Vitruvius for more than forty years, and chiefly at Rome, his testimony must be entitled to credit. The ship also called the Sovereign, which was truly the noblest floating castle that ever swam the sea, was a striking proof of the skill and judgment of Charles in naval architecture. Yet after having given all these proofs of the superiority of his taste and judgment, this king caused an equestrian statue of himself, which is still at Charing Cross, and which may vie with the best that are to be seen at Paris, to be arrayed in the full habit of his own time.

Before I proceed to speak of the palaces, and of the men of literature and conversation, I will just remark the vast expence which is incurred here in iron balustrades, as in the Place Royale, which is inclosed with a railing ten feet high. There is a vast variety of this sort of railing in Paris, which while it prevents intrusion, affords a full view of the gardens, &c. that are inclosed by it.

CHAP. III.

OF THE PALACES AND OTHER PUBLIC BUILDINGS,
AND THE CURIOSITIES OF NATURE AND ART
WHICH ARE IN THEM.

IN the Palais Mazarin there are many good pictures, but that of which I took the greatest notice, was a very large collection of Grecian and Roman statues, which were ranged in a gallery by themselves. Most of them were brought from Rome by the Cardinal. Those which are togatæ and cloathed, are as they were found; but such as were nudæ when they were carved, are miserably disguised by the affectation of the Cardinal, who in a sudden transport of devotion, caused them to be first mutilated and mangled, and then had them frocked by some sad bungler, and with a wretched plaster of Paris, so that they appear quite ridiculous. I cannot but remark that the Cardinal should either have furnished his cabinet and gallery with the togatæ, or statues having drapery, only; or if he chose to admit those which were nudæ, or without drapery, he should not have cloathed them. The method which he adopted was at best but a vain ostentation of his purity, while it betrayed a sad per-

version, or total want of taste for the noble art of sculpture, for the display of which alone these statues are valuable.

Cicero informs us, that some of the ancient sages were of opinion, that there was nothing naturally indelicate, but that every thing might be called by its own proper name: but our Celsus ^a thought otherwise, and asked pardon, being a Roman, for describing several maladies in the vernacular tongue ^b.

By these and many other elegant statues which I saw at Versailles, and which were taken from the Palais Mazarin, it was evident that the Roman cloathing was the most simple imaginable, and that a Roman was undressed in as short a time as is taken up by us in drawing off our gloves, or taking off our shoes. The cloathing of both sexes was very much alike. As for the fashion of the Roman habit, it is evident by these ancient statues, which Octavian Ferrari has judiciously followed in his explanations of the garments of the ancients, that the tunica, or shirt, was without collar or sleeves, and girt high up under the breasts. Also that the toga or gown was a long and wide garment open at both ends, let down over the head, and supported by the left hand thrust under the skirts of it, while the top of it rested on the left

^a Celsus, the physician.

^b Apud Græcos vocabula, et tolerabilius se habent, et accepta jam usu sunt; cum in omni feré medicorum volumine atque sermone, jactentur: apud nos fædiora verba, ne consuetudine quidem aliqua verecundius loquentium commendata sunt." L. vi. cap. xviii.

shoulder. The right hand and arm were naked and above the gown, and the gown itself was ungirt, and hung loose. So that when a Roman undressed himself for the bath, which he daily did before eating, he had only to draw up his left hand, and the gown fell at his feet; and at the same time to loosen the girdle of the tunica, drawing up both his arms from under it, and that also fell at his feet. In the first ages of the commonwealth the toga only was worn; afterwards the tunica was added, but no further addition was made to the dress in the fullest splendour and luxury of the empire. Every other article of cloathing has been invented since.

I was much surprised that, among the vast number of ancient statues which I saw at Paris, I met with none but such as were cloathed with a toga pura, and that no example of a bullated or studded one occurred. The toga and tunica were both of white flannel without linen. This flannel is shewn to have been very fine, by the smallness of the folds, and the facility with which it falls into them. It seems also to be very light, by its being raised by the finger and thumb only, as is the air of some of the statues; and by the whole garment being suspended from the shoulder; and also by the form and proportions of the frame being visible through it.

This practice of wearing woollen dresses only in a hot climate, brought on the use, and indeed necessity of frequent bathing, without which cleanliness could not have been preserved; at the same time, the frequency of bathing confined them to the use of this loose kind of dress. It is certain, however, that

neatness, cleanliness and health would have been more readily attained by the use of linen than by the bath, which would have greatly enfeebled the constitution, and rendered the skin wrinkled and intolerably tender, if they had not protected it by the use of oils and perfumes. By similar means, the Indians and Africans at this time secure their skins from the effects of heat and cold, and from other injuries of the weather, to which, from their disuse of cloathing, they are exposed.

But the best rule of health, and the surest guide to longevity, is to do but little to ourselves; people in general are not aware of the inconveniencies which they incur from the use of articles, which they regard as innocent, because they are accustomed to them. But to return from this digression.

There was in this collection, one little statue of which I took more particular notice on account of the elegance of the sculpture, and the fancy of the drapery. It was the figure of a Sibyl, and was placed on a table. The face of the old woman was cut very deep into the stone within the coiffure, which looked like a hood drawn over the forehead; a very exact emblem of an oracle, which is hidden, dark, and ambiguous; like the woman herself, who would neither have her words understood, nor her face seen, as if she were ashamed of her deception.

In what did the fancy of men of the earliest ages originate, which led them to make old women prophetesses, uttering oracles, and interpreting the will of the gods? To have made them sagæ and veneficæ was reasonable enough, because old age disposes all

people to be spiteful, but particularly the weaker sex^c. To poison and to bewitch are the secret revenges of impotent people.

The Jews were impatient of the company of women in their religious rites, lest they should contaminate and spoil their devotion. The Romans on the contrary, thought that religion became women better than men; for, in addition to the general duties which they had in common with men in the adoration of the gods, they had peculiar duties, in which men were not concerned. Cicero bids his wife supplicate the gods for him; he tells her that he thinks they will be kinder to her than to him. It is not improbable, that the prophetesses among the Romans, were in esteem upon some such principle.

The next place which I saw was the Apartment of M. Viviers in the Arsenal. It consists of seven or eight rooms on the ground floor, which look into the great garden. The rooms are small, but most curiously furnished with the greatest variety, and best sorted china that I ever saw; besides pagods, Chinese paint-

^c —————minuti

Semper et infirmi est animi exiguique voluptas
Ultio. Continuo sic collige, quod vindictâ
Nemo magis gaudet, quam fœmina.

Juven: Sat. xiii. v. 190.

——— Revenge, which still we find,
The weakest frailty of a feeble mind.
Degenerous passion, and for man too base,
It seats its empire in the female race:
There rages; and to make its blow secure,
Puts flatt'ry on, until the aim be sure.—Creech.

ings, most elegant bureaux, bookcases, and pictures of the first masters. Among the pictures, those which chiefly pleased me were three by the incomparable Dutch artist Rembrandt. The subject of one was a girl with a cage in her hand, looking up earnestly after the bird, which had escaped from the cage and was flying away over her head. Amazement, terror, and regret were admirably expressed in her countenance. The second represented an unlucky lad leaning upon a table; his eyes teemed with mischief, and he seemed to be watching for an opportunity to do some unhappy turn. In a third, which was after the wonted manner of this artist, a young gentleman is portrayed *en deshabillé*. The two first are the most natural for expression and drapery that can be imagined, but nothing surely ever came near his colouring of flesh and dresses. This important part of his art he passionately studied throughout his life, and was perpetually making experiments relative to it. With what perfect success is shewn by these and many other of his performances ^d. These three paintings are all of

^d It has lately been considered extremely probable, that, at least, this great master in the art of painting was accustomed to rub in the colours with his fingers in a dry state. This very important fact has been developed in a publication, the title of which I have unfortunately forgot. In richness and truth of colouring, in copiousness of invention and energy of expression, Rembrandt equalled the greatest of his predecessors; and whatever he attempted, he rendered with a degree of truth, of reality, of illusion, that defies all comparison. By these powers he seemed independent of his subject; it mattered not what he painted, his pencil, like the

young people, and are so exquisitely finished with all the art and perfection of colouring, that they are as smooth as any limning. I had the pleasure of seeing them again and again. I will only add that the reflections which were cast upon Rubens by Philbien—that he coloured all objects alike—were unjust, for he certainly adapted his paint to the ages and characters of his subjects.

I next visited the rooms in which M. le Nôtre keeps his curiosities, and which were extremely well worthy of being seen. He is a very ingenious old gentleman, and eighty-nine years of age, but remarkably quick and lively. He entertained me with the greatest civility. He is the controller of the king's gardens which adjoin the Tuilleries. The arrangement and design of most of the royal, and other large gardens in and about Paris, are of his invention, and he has lived long enough to see them arrive at perfection.

In the three apartments into which his cabinet is divided, the uppermost of which is an octagon with a dome, there was a large collection of choice pictures ;

finger of Midas, turned every thing it touched into gold. It made defects agreeable, and gave importance to trifles. Of this artist a humorous story is related finding his works accumulate upon his hands, he attempted to make a sale of them, but failed, in consequence of the prejudice which his countrymen had against living authors. He therefore secreted himself, pretending to be dead, and put his wife into mourning, and ordered a mock funeral. After this his sale went on with uncommon success.

and another of engravings, which were superbly bound. From among these he had lately selected the choicest, and presented them to the king at Versailles. These he valued at 50,000 crowns. There were also very beautiful pieces of porcelain, some of which were jars of a most extraordinary magnitude, some antique Roman heads, and busts and entire statues. But in the whole of his cabinet, although he was so great a lover of nature, there was nothing relative to natural history.

Upon one occasion he took me to an upper room, where he had a considerable collection of medals, mostly modern, and which were divided into four cabinets. Among these there were four large drawers, three of which contained nearly three hundred medals of King William. Those in the fourth were of that king's ancestors and family. In making this collection he had spent forty years, and had purchased many of the medals at a vast price. He has certainly the most copious materials for an *historia metallica* that I ever saw.

The king has a particular kindness for M. le Nôtre, and has greatly enriched him; no one talks with more freedom to his majesty, who is much delighted with his humour, and sits and inspects his medals. If any medal is met with that reflects upon the king, he will say to him, "*Sire, voila une qu' est bien contre nous*"; as though the subject pleased him, and he was glad to shew it to his master.

* Here is one, Sire, that is quite against us!

M. la Nôtre spoke much in praise of the king's temper, and affirmed that he never fell into a passion; in proof of which he mentioned many instances which would have caused most men to be in a rage, which he passed over with all the forbearance imaginable.

In this collection I saw many very rare old china vessels, and among them a small glass Roman urn; it was of a blue colour, very thick and ponderous, and had two ears terminating in feet which were divided into four claws. The bottom of this vessel was smooth and scarcely umbilicate ^f, for which reason it is probable that it was cast and not blown.

Of all the royal buildings the palace of Luxemburg is the most highly finished, and the best designed in all other respects, except the trifling intersections or reedings of the columns, which are beneath the grandeur of the order, and have too great a resemblance to a cheesemonger's shop; so extremely difficult it is to possess a true relish for ancient simplicity, and yet to abstain from adding impertinent ornaments. In fact there are but few buildings in Paris where this accuracy is observed with strictness. Among those few are the south-east front of the Louvre, the façade of St. Gervais, and the whole building of the Val de Grace. This fondness for additional ornaments may perhaps be the reason why the Doric order is chiefly practised here at present; the metopæ, or shoulder pieces, naturally admitting a greater variety, and agreeing with the intended use of the building.

^f From the Latin umbilicatus.

In this palace is the famous gallery where the history of Mary of Medicis is painted by Rubens. Though this was executed seventy years ago, it is as fresh as it was at first, so great a master was he in the art of colouring. His flesh is admirable and also his scarlet, for which he is thought to have had a secret, now unknown.

It is certain that the goodness of colours was one of the great cares and studies of the late famous masters of the art of painting, and that which seems most to have obliged them to pay this attention was the necessity which they felt and imposed upon themselves to paint all their own designs, and more particularly the drapery. And although, in the history which I am now speaking of, Rubens is in this respect too great a libertine, yet in the habit of his principal figures there is much truth, as in that of Henry IV. the queen, her son and three daughters, and the cardinal. It must however be observed, that the allegorical assistants in all the tableaux are described in a very airy and fanciful manner^g.

Sir Antony Vandyke, who was the pupil of Rubens,

^g On this subject it is the remark of an acute and very judicious writer, that "the history of Mary de Medicis, in the palace of Luxemburg, painted by Rubens, is in a vicious taste, by a perpetual jumble of real and allegorical personages, which produces a discordance of parts, and an obscurity upon the whole; witness, in particular, the tablature representing her arrival at Marseilles, in which, mixed with the real personages, the nereids and tritons appear sounding their shells. Such a mixture of fiction and reality in the same group, is strangely absurd."—Kaims's Elem. of Crit. viii. 130

introduced, and made too much use of this novelty in England, when individuals would permit him, as females were very willing to do. Indeed the ladies during his time seem to have been very fond of being painted en deshabillé. It was this innovation that threw out of employment Cornelius Johnson, who was the best painter of his time, and shortened his existence by distress of mind.

It is certain that in the progress of time every costume becomes deshabillé, yet, is it not better, I would ask, and much more pleasing, to see the painting of a deceased friend, or relative, or person of distinction, arrayed in drapery suitable to the fashion of his time, than in a foppish night-gown, and an odd head-dress, to which the person described never was accustomed.

But that which led me into these reflections was, that by employing others to paint the drapery, modern artists are encouraged to be indolent. It is quite enough for them, they think, to paint the faces of their pictures, and to send them to be dressed by meaner hands. But if it were incumbent on them in point of honour and character to paint the drapery themselves, they would, in consequence of the variety which would perpetually occur, become more accurate in colouring, and exalt their profession into far greater esteem. An artist of established credit might easily effect this important change, and may find his own account in it by obliging the persons he paints to remunerate him for his trouble and time. It is certainly the lot of only a few favoured individuals to arrive at excellence in this noble art.

In the antichamber of the queen's apartments there

are other paintings by Rubens. At the upper end of it the ceremonies of the marriages of her three daughters to Savoy, Spain and England are exhibited in three distinct tableaux. In another historical tableau he has painted himself in a very free and easy manner, looking upon the three ladies, as if he were a mere spectator of his own performance. In some of the tableaux in the great gallery he has introduced the portrait of his wife; but in the last of them, in which the queen is represented ascending to heaven, she is exhibited going up after her, but in a very unwilling posture and hanging back. Whether this attitude is to be attributed to the reluctance of her mind, or to her full and heavy body, is doubtful, but the impression made upon the spectator is, that the artist was too fond of the company of his wife to part with her, and that she also was unwilling to quit her husband.

Several of the rooms of these apartments, but particularly the oratory and the dressing-room, were wainscotted with cedar carved in flowers, which is very rare in Paris. The floors were made of small pieces of wood arrayed so as to form figures; the inward knots were inlayed with threads of silver, which have a surprising effect. But I was more particularly pleased with the very perfect state, and the firmness and durability of these floors, after having been laid down so long a time. In London, and even in some houses in Paris, they prove so very noisy when trodden on, and are so faulty, as in a few years to become quite intolerable.

It is much to be regretted that the king has so

great an aversion to the Louvre^b, which, if it were finished, as in two or three years it might easily be, would perhaps be the most magnificent palace that ever was upon the face of the earth; and indeed unless this be done, Paris will never arrive at its full beauty.

In the fronton or pediment of the south-east façade of the Louvre, are two flat stones, which are shewn to all strangers as great natural curiosities. They cover the very summit of it, like slates, and meet in an angle. They are very large, each being fifty-four feet in length, eight in breadth, and only fourteen inches in thickness. It was considered as a master-piece of art, and equal to any performance of this kind by the ancients, to raise to such a height stones so large and so brittle. They were taken from the quarries of Meudon, which is the residence of Monseigneur the Dauphin.

In the galleries of the Louvre are Le Brun's pictures of some of the battles of Alexander, of which the French are not a little proud, affirming them to be the most admirable pieces of painting that were

^b When this palace was first founded it was designed to be the most magnificent of any in the metropolis. On one of its gates was the inscription:

Dum totum impleat orbem;

May this structure last until the master of it shall subdue
the universe!

A candid acknowledgement of the thirst after universal dominion, for which the kings of France have been so much censured, and in the gratification of which so much of the blood, the treasure and the repose of Europe was sacrificed.

ever executed on this side of the Alps. There was also a large piece of Paul Veronese, which was presented to the king by the Senate of Venice. In one of the galleries are several glass vases, in which are arranged the puppets, or play-things of the Dauphin when he was young.¹ They represent a camp in all its parts, and cost fifty thousand crowns. Nor can I pass by unnoticed the Antellier, or workshop of M. Girardon, who designed and executed the tomb of Cardinal Richlieu; it is without exception the most astonishing object in the Louvre.

There are two rooms in this palace which contain a most extensive collection of antique marble and brazen statues, vases, and various other articles of great antiquity. There is nothing in all Paris which is more worthy of being seen. Among the statues I observed an Egyptian Janus, with a Silenus on one side of it, and on the other a Bacchus. There were also very many other Egyptian figures of good design, all of which had a hole in the crown of the head. There was one brazen figure of an Egyptian lion, of a very great size, the design of which was rude, and not unlike an Indian pagod. This also had a large square hole in the back, near the neck. The Siamites, who came to Paris on an embassy¹, expressed much

¹ This was in the year 1668. The same ambassadors went to Rome on an embassy to Pope Innocent, who, with a view to preserve the memory of so important an event, caused a medal to be struck representing the Pope on his throne, receiving the king of Siam's letter from a Jesuit, accompanied by three natives of Siam, lying prostrate at the feet of his

pleasure at the sight of this figure, and said that it was not unlike one of their own. Respecting the hole, they said that it served to receive the incense, in order that smook might issue from the body and nostrils of the animal. I have no doubt but that the open crowns of the other Egyptian figures were designed for a similar use, and that the cavities served for perfuming pots. It is no improbable conjecture that from the effect produced by this contrivance, might have arisen the ornament of radiated heads. In the figure of which I am now speaking, if fire were to be placed in the hole near the neck, rays would issue out of, and play round the head.

There was also a small cast of a lean man, sitting in a bent posture, and looking down upon a roll of parchment that was spread open upon his knees, and which he seemed to be in the act of reading. This image was of solid brass, it was found inclosed in a mummy, and seemed to have on a thin linen garment, such perhaps as the Egyptian priests were accustomed to wear.

M. Girardon shewed us the entire mummy of a woman. The scent of the hand was not disagreeable to me, but it resembled no perfume now in use. I have no doubt but that naptha was the great ingredient. Of this article the smell is so unusual, that many persons ignorant of natural history have been deceived by the smell of the Hogsden water, in which

holiness. The inscription is, *Venite, et Videte Opera Domini*—Come, and behold the works of the Lord.

Numism. Pontif. Rom. par le Pere Bonani, v. 2.

true naptha is substantially present, and I have in my possession several ounces of it, which I collected from the surface of that water. It seems to the smell to be a slight impregnation of turpentine.

In this collection there was also a great variety of urns and funeral vases, of all kinds of composition and fashion ; an antique writing pen coiled up, with both ends raised equally, representing the head of a snake ; and numerous heads and busts of brass of great antiquity and value.

M. Girardon is extremely courteous to all strangers, and especially to such as have any taste for curiosities of this kind ; to them he gladly exhibits his collection. He is an excellent artist, and of the most exact taste. Indeed it cannot be otherwise, than that a man educated in the noble art of sculpture, and daily studying so great a variety of original productions of the greatest masters, must far surpass the rest of mankind, whose taste is not formed upon such models.

From M. Boudelot, on whose friendship I set the highest value, I received great civilities. He is well known by his publications on the utility of voyages. He has a collection at once choice and extensive of Greek and Roman books. I paid him several visits, and had the pleasure of inspecting his cabinet of coins, and small images of copper, which are numerous and of great value. They are Egyptian, Phrygian, Grecian and Roman. Among the Egyptian coins, the most curious was a *Deus Crepitus* of admirable workmanship, with a radiated crown. It was an Ethiopian, and therefore of great antiquity ; it was the practice of the people of that country to represent their kings, under the figures of their gods.

There were also in solid copper, a female skeleton, in a sitting posture, similar to that which has been described in M. Girardon's collection, and like it, found in the body of a mummy; an Apis, or heifer, in copper, and a Phrygian Priapus of elegant workmanship; the Phrygian cap pointed and hanging down behind, as our caps are worn *en deshabillé*. Upon the subject of these and many other curiosities this learned antiquarian intends soon to publish.

I could find no medal of Palmyra in M. Boudelot's cabinet, although I made very particular inquiry, as I was willing to add whatever could be learned upon this subject in France, to what is already known in England. He has many marbles from Greece, most of which have been published by Spon; there is one, however, and that the most ancient and curious of them all, concerning which he is about to publish a dissertation. It is inscribed with a catalogue in three columns of the names of the most considerable persons of Eretheis, (one of the chief tribes of Attica,) that were killed in the same year, but in five different places, where the Athenians fought under two generals, viz. in Cyprus, Egypt, Phœnicia, Ægina, and Halies. In the three columns are 177 names.

In this cabinet I also saw some bass-reliefs, one of Praxiteles, which was well designed, another of Musos, the comedian; a third, which was very prominent and highly finished, of a Cupid asleep, his head resting on his left arm. In his hand he holds two poppy-heads, which, from the peculiar properties of that plant, were probably introduced as emblematic of his art. There was also an antique bust of Zenobia, in marble,

with a radiated crown ; it was brought by M. Thevenot from Asia. He shewed me a Dissertation which was ready for the press, on an ancient Intaglia of Ptolomæus, ^k or the player on the flute. The head is engraved on an Amethyst, but the most remarkable circumstance belonging to it was a thin muffler, which covered the mouth and nose.

I ventured to dissent from his opinion as to the interpretation of the inscription on a coin which M. Seguin calls Britannica. M. Boudelot reads the inscription thus: Iovi Victori Saturnalia Io! or Iovi Victoria Sat. Io! which I would prefer reading. Io! Sat. Victoriæ Io! That is " Enough of Victory! Let us return with the spoils of the ocean! This coin was struck on the occasion of Claudius's return with the soldiers, whose helmets were filled with the shells which they had collected on the sea-shore. On one side of the coin was a palm-branch; on the reverse, a laurel crown; both emblems of victory.

He shewed me a calculus which had lately been taken from the body, perhaps the bladder of a horse, and which had been the cause of the animal's death. It weighed about two pounds, and was perfectly round and laminated ^l.

^k Ptolomy the twelfth, who received the surname of Auletes, from his skill in playing on the flute.

^l It is not generally known that horses as well as cows, are subject to the formation of masses or balls of hair in their stomach. The friendly offices which these creatures perform for each other, in licking those parts of the skin which the individual cannot reach itself, are to be regarded

The Observatoire Royale is built on a rising ground, just without the city-walls, and is a very fine building. The vaulted carved roofs, and winding staircases are constructed with singular art. The stones are disposed both within and without, with the greatest regularity that I ever observed in any modern edifice. There is neither iron nor wood in it, but all is firmly covered with stone, vault upon vault. The platform on the top is very spacious, and affords a large and very favourable view of Paris and the circumjacent

as the cause of these concretions; for the hair thus detached, being indigestible, and swallowed in masses too large to pass the pylorus, is, by the action of the stomach matted together, forming balls of various sizes. By long residence in the stomach, the secretions of that organ deposit themselves on these concretions, and give them an uniform, smooth, and polished appearance, totally dissimilar to the colour or structure of the hair.

It would be natural to suppose that the digestive process, and ultimately the health of the animal would be impaired by the presence of these extraneous bodies.

I once had one of these concretions; it was almost perfectly round, quite smooth, and polished. Its *levity* suggested to me the probability of its being hair, and upon shaving off a very small portion of its surface I discovered that it was so. It was found in the stomach of a horse, and was suspected, with great probability, to be the cause of the animal's death. It is now in the Museum of Mr. Anstice, of Bridgwater, to whom I presented it.

But the concretion to which Dr. Lister refers, is shewn by its specific gravity to have been a calculus, and was very probably taken from the bladder.

country.^m It is paved with black flint arranged in small squares.

One room in this building was well furnished with models of all kinds of machines. There was also a burning glassⁿ about three feet in diameter, which in

^m This building was eighty feet high, and the foundation was laid equally low, so that the descent of the observatory into a subterranean cave equals its elevation. From the bottom to the top was a circular hole or tunnel forming a kind of natural telescope on a very large scale. It was constructed of stones hewn in such a manner that no mortar was wanted to fix and maintain them in their positions.

ⁿ The most remarkable burning-glasses of the ancients were those of Archimedes and Proclus. With these astonishing instruments the former reduced to ashes the Roman ships besieging Syracuse, and the latter the navy of Vitalian besieging Byzantium.

Among the moderns, that of M. Villette, which was three feet eleven inches in diameter, and was composed of tin, copper, and tin-glass, was among the most eminent. It was capable of melting a silver sixpence in seven seconds and half; a halfpenny in sixteen seconds, and of making it run in thirty-four; and of melting tin in three seconds. That of M. Buffon was six feet broad and as many high, and consisted of 168 pieces of looking-glass, each six inches square. By means of this instrument he set boards of beech wood on fire at the distance of 150 feet in March; at another time he kindled wood 200 feet distant, and melted tin and lead at the distance of 120 feet, and silver at 50.

Mr. Parker, of Fleet-street, constructed a transparent lens of extraordinary powers, and at a vast expence. This was sent to China with Lord Macartney's embassy, and is now at Pekin, in the hands of persons who are equally ignorant of its value and its use.—For a fuller account of this Instrument, see Nicholson's Encyclopedia.

the month of February kindled wood the very instant that the rays of the sun passed through the focus.

I was indisposed and could not accept the favour which was offered me, of seeing the moon in their telescopes, and of going down into the vault which was contrived for seeing the stars at noon-tide, but unsuccessfully.

On the floor of one of the octagon towers, an universal map in a vast circle was designed with ink, with great accuracy and neatness.

The triumphal arch beyond the gate of St. Antoine is well worthy of being seen. It is formed of the largest blocks of stone that could be got, which are laid without mortar, the smallest end being placed, after the manner of the ancients, outwards. In this structure the French imagine that they surpass all former works of architecture. At the time when I saw it, no more of it was built than the foundation, which was laid twenty-two feet deep, and raised to the foot of the pedestals. But the design is most magnificent, as is shewn by the model, which is finished in full beauty, and is in proportion to the work itself. It seems to have been intended for a gate-way or entrance into the city, for it fronts the principal street of the suburbs, and has a vast walk planted with trees leading towards the Bois de Vincennes.

The church-yard of St. Innocent's, which has been the public burying-place of the city of Paris for a thousand years, was, when it was entire, as it was a few years ago, and built round with double galleries filled with skulls and other bones, an awful and

venerable sight! I now found it in ruins, the largest of the galleries being pulled down and houses erected where they stood, while the collection of bones has totally disappeared°. The rest of the church-yard is in a more neglected state than any consecrated place which I ever beheld.

° A scene of great interest yet less simple as being the work of art, as this is of nature, is thus described by the author of the *Roman Conversations*: During our residence at Florence, I took a walk to the Great Duke's Gallery. I passed through its Tribuna, without attending to the chef d'œuvres of sculpture and painting which are there collected. I went on to the small room adjoining, in which there is an object overlooked, or shunned perhaps by many *dilettanti*, yet certainly very affecting and instructive. You must remember the wax-work of Caietano Julio: it most naturally represents the scene of a burying-vault, in which the gradual progress of the dissolution of the human body is exhibited in several small figures. The first is swollen, the second discoloured and spotted, the third full of worms, the last a bare skeleton. Among the skulls and bones which are scattered on the floor, lies a *torn folio volume* with this inscription:

Et Opera Eorum Sequuntur

Illos.—V. 2, p 148.

In Paris, it is the custom when the bones have accumulated to any great extent in the parish churchyards, to remove them to the catacombs, of which an entertaining writer of the present day gives the following account:

“ Armed with tapers, we descended a flight of steps to the depth of about a hundred feet below the surface, and entered one of the low passages leading to the catacombs. These vaults are the work of ages, having been formed by excavating for the stone with which Paris was built. They

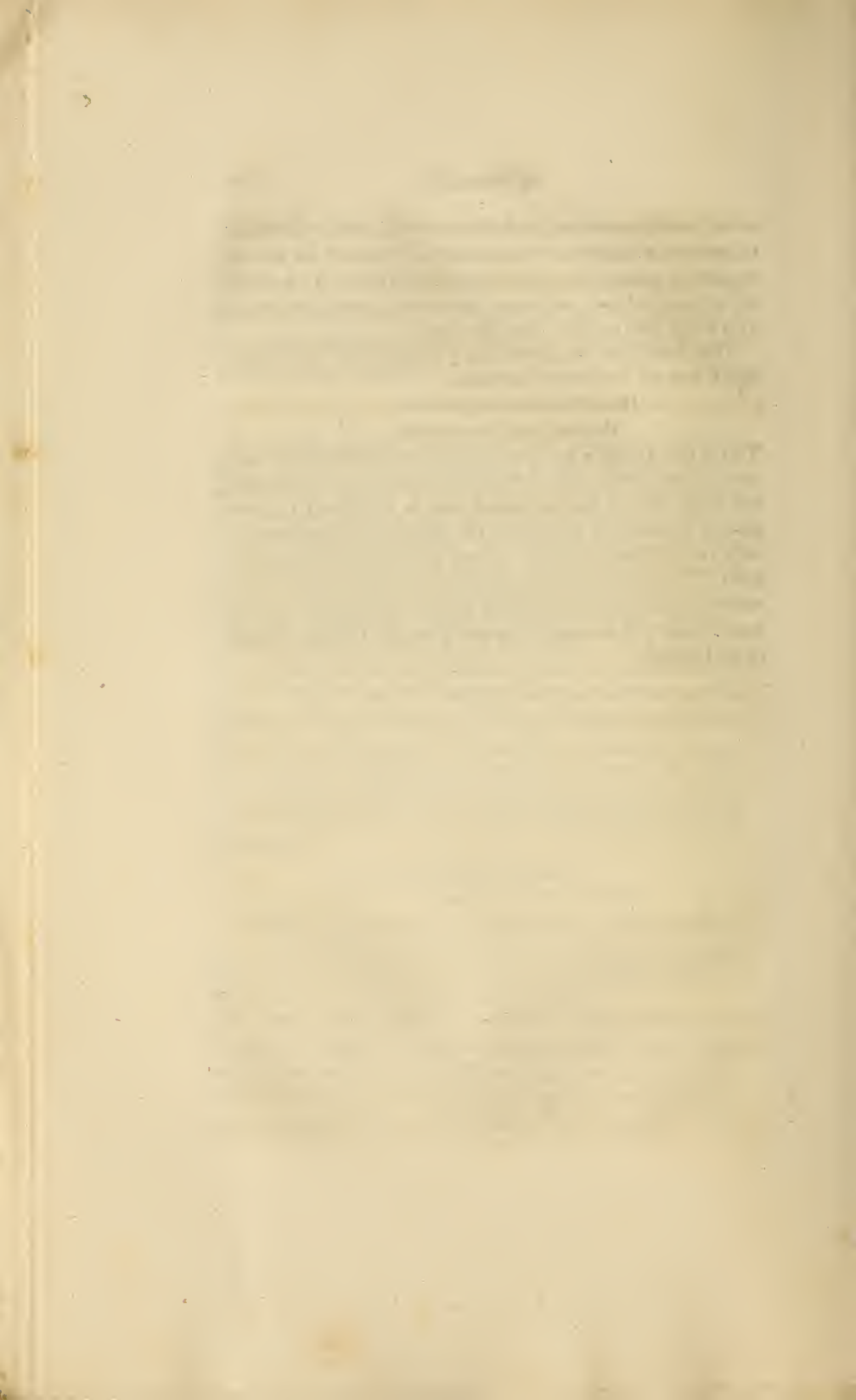
are of prodigious extent, and there are melancholy instances to prove how fatally a stranger may lose himself, in the labyrinth of passages into which they are divided. To prevent a recurrence of such accidents, the proper route is indicated by a black line marked upon the roof.

After some time we arrived at a small black door, over which was the following inscription :

Has ultra metas requiescant

Beatam spem expectantes.

This is the entrance into the cavern of death, where the contents of the various cemeteries of Paris have been deposited; and as the door is locked behind you, it is difficult to prevent an involuntary shudder at the thought of being shut up with two millions of skulls. Upon the whole it is a painful sight. You feel as if you were guilty of profanation, by intruding upon the privacy which ought to be sacred—for the dead should not be made a spectacle to the living”—Diary of an Invalid.



CHAP. IV.

OF THE PRIVATE CABINETS OF PARIS, AND THE OWNERS OF THEM.

AMONG the numerous cabinets of Paris, none exceeded that of M. Buco. A long gallery with a good library on one side, leads to two rooms which are splendidly decorated with paintings, vases, statues, and figures, in brass and china; also the famous enamelled vessels, made at the manufactory of Poitu, which is now no longer carried on, and a vast number of other curiosities.

I particularly examined his large collection of shells, which occupied sixty drawers. There was one large bivalve^a; it was a blood-red spondylus^b, for which the late Duke of Orleans gave nine hundred livres, more than fifty pounds sterling. M. Buco assured me that the duke once offered a Parisian eleven thousand livres for thirty-two shells, and that his offer was refused. Upon this occasion the duke said, he knew

^a ^b The bivalve is one of the classes of shell-fish, the shell, being two in number and joined by a hinge. The spondylus is a genus.

not which was the greatest fool, the man who bid the price, or he who refused it!

In this collection was an Hippocampus or sea horse; it was four inches long, the tail square, the breast and belly thick, like the fish called a miller's thumb; it was winged, like a sort of flying-fish, but the fins were spoiled; the head long and square like the tail, the muzzle somewhat tufted. This fish was given to M. Bucu, by the duchess of Portsmouth, and perhaps came out of the collection of king Charles, who had many curious presents made to him; one, which was given to him by the States of Holland, was of shells, but he suffered them all to be dissipated and lost.

There was also a *Vespetum Canadense*, or the nest of a Canadian wasp, of a most elegant figure and admirable contrivance. It is entire in all its parts. It is as large as a melon of middle size, of the shape of a pear, with an edge running round where it is thickest, from which part it declines suddenly to a point. At the very end of the point is a small hole with smooth edges inclining inwards, in all other respects it is whole; it is formed upon the twig of a tree.

Nor must I omit the striped skin of an African Ass; it was well tanned and supple. It is much to be regretted that so beautiful a creature cannot be rendered tractable.

I next inspected M. Tournefort's collection of shells, which was extremely well chosen, very beautiful, perfect, and in good order, and occupied about twenty drawers. Among them was one of the Thinn oyster, which in the inside resembles mother of pearl, and

near the hinge has a hole, which shuts with a peculiar and third shell. These he brought with him from the rocks in Spain, where he took them alive^c. His collection of seeds, fruits, and plants, consists of eight thousand different sorts. He shewed me several sheets of vellum, on each of which was painted in water colours one single plant, most of them in flower. The best artist that can be found in Paris is employed for this purpose at the expence of the king, who for the painting of every plant pays two louis d'ors.

I was engaged to wait upon M. Verney, but missing him, went with a young gentleman in the Ambassador's suite to see Bernis the Anatomist. We found him alone in the dissecting-room, employed upon a subject from which the contents of the chest, &c. had been removed. In the room there were many very odd things. My companion was strangely surprized and offended, for it was morning, and his senses were

^c The city of Alicant forms a crescent on the sea-side, and that part of the shore nearest the city forms a bed of limestone mixed with sand, in which the triple hinged oyster-shells are found, with *buccinæ*, *molæ*, *tallinæ* and *ursini*, half petrified; the shells often preserving part of their natural varnish, and the oyster-shells their scales, by which the commencement of their petrification may be perceived.

“The oyster-shells between Murcia and Mula are distinct from those of Alicant, having only one hinge. They are about eight inches long and five broad. This opens a field of speculation for naturalists, with respect to these various petrifications and their period of antiquity.”——Dillon's Travels through Spain, ed. 2, p. 360-1,

very acute and vigorous, and he retired down the stairs much faster than he came up.

But no visit pleased me more than that which I paid to Father Plumier, whom I found in his cell at the Minimes. He had brought from abroad several folios of designs and paintings of plants, birds, fishes, and insects of the West Indies, and of plants of America. There were but few shells; among them was a murex, which, as it struggles with its opponent, stains the water with a purple dye; and a buccinum, which lays eggs with hard shells, which are quite as large as those of a sparrow, and not unlike them in shape and colour.


I visited M. Dacier and his lady, who are both very worthy and obliging persons, and profoundly learned. To him the medical profession is greatly indebted for his elegant translation of Hippocrates, and his notes. Of Madame Dacier I must say, that her great learning did not at all lessen the gentility of her manner in conversation, nor in the smallest degree affect her discourse, which was at once easy, modest, and unassuming.

M. Morin, of the Academie des Sciences, who is very curious in minerals, shewed me some jaspers, onyxes, agates, and loadstones, from Siam; specimens of tin ore from Alsace; and a large block of a kind of amethyst, which was found in some part of France, and which weighed several hundred pounds. Of this some parts were very fine, and had large spots and veins of a deep violet colour. It reminded me of a vast amethyst, which was brought to London from New Spain, and weighed eleven pounds some ounces.

The members of this academy are from twelve to sixteen in number, and are all in some way or other pensioned by the king. During the war they endeavoured to publish their transactions monthly, in imitation of the Royal Society of London, the register of which is the best that ever was devised. I heard Mr. Oldenberg who began it, say, that he corresponded with seventy different persons. I asked him how he contrived to answer so many letters weekly, knowing him to be very punctual? He replied, that he made one letter answer another, and that he never read a letter without having pen, ink and paper ready to write the answer. By these means he prevented his letters from accumulating, and himself from being fatigued by having many answers to write at the same time. The members of the French Academy have this great encouragement given to them in the pursuit of natural philosophy, that if any one of them shall send in a bill of expences incurred by him in prosecuting any experiments, or apply to have a book printed, or drawings engraved, the cost is defrayed by the king. This was the case with regard to Dr. Tournefort's *Elemens de Botanique*, the engravings of which cost the king twelve thousand livres.

Mr. Butterfield, who is a right hearty honest Englishman, and has resided in Paris for thirty-five years, is an excellent mathematical instrument maker; he works for the king and all the princes, and his instruments are in great request all over Europe and Asia. His collection of load stones is worth several hundred pounds; some of them are as hard as steel, others soft and friable, yet of these last the virtue was equal

to the former; of the former the powers were very various. One, which unshod weighed less than a dram, would attract and suspend a dram and half; but when shod would, if rightly applied, attract one hundred and forty-four drams of iron. Of three that were shod the powers were as follow: one weighing an ounce and a half, takes up a pound; another weighing one dram, two scruples, fourteen grains, attracts eighteen ounces, or eighty-two times its own weight; another weighing sixty-five grains, attracts fourteen ounces, that is one hundred and forty times its own weight. He entertained us full two hours with well contrived experiments to exhibit the properties of the loadstone; that of its approach to the balance wheel of a watch was very fine; at first it causes the balance to move with great rapidity; but upon its nearer approach entirely stops it. Among other experiments which he made, was one with a plate of iron an inch broad, turned into a ring about four inches in diameter, which evidently had two north and two south poles; the same thing, he said, he had once observed in a loadstone, and that he had contrived this in imitation of nature. The double polarity was clearly manifested by the motion of steel-filings in an earthen plate, which was placed upon the ring. Another was made by suspending a needle from a thread, with the point of which a ball of steel was in contact, and was prevented from ascending nearer to the sphere of action of the loadstone, by a weight to which it was attached. Another displayed the power of the needle to act in water, and through brass, gold, stone, wood, or any medium except iron. He assured us that he had



one loadstone, which would work through a wall eighteen inches in thickness. He demonstrated by many experiments that the effluvia of the loadstone move in a circle ; that is, that those which flow from the north pole, pass round and enter the south pole, and the reverse ; and that in their passage, they put in motion whatever steel-filings they meet with ; indeed it is very pleasing to see how the filings are disposed, for in their arrangement one cannot but observe the perfect track of the road, which the whirling invisible matter takes in issuing from, and in entering the poles of the load-stone.

Mr. Butterfield shewed us a loadstone, which had been sawn from an iron-bar, that had kept the stones together at the very top of the steeple of the church at Chartres. It was a thick crust of rust, part of which was turned into a strong loadstone, and had all the properties of a stone recently taken from the mine. The most outward rust had no magnetic virtue, but that which was inward had so strong a power, that without being shod, it would take up more than a third of its weight. The iron had the exact grain of a solid magnet, and the brittleness of stone.

It is certain that all iron will in the course of time return to its mineral nature, notwithstanding the precaution of heating and hammering. The Spanish cannon, which for many years were buried under the old fort at Hull, in Yorkshire, were thoroughly converted into brittle iron-stone or mineral again. I once had a piece of wood, that was taken out of Lough-Neagh, in Ireland, which was not only good iron ore, but a loadstone too. So that it is evident,

that in this sort of ore, nature goes backward and forward; and therefore M. de la Hire has well called it *vegetation*; that is, that iron will become ore, and ore loadstone.

M. Guanieres is one of the most curious and industrious persons in Paris. His memoirs, manuscripts, paintings and engravings are vastly numerous; among other curious manuscripts, was a *Capitulaire*, or body of statutes divided into chapters, of Charles V. and the Gospel of St. Matthew in a golden letter, upon purple vellum. There was one toy, viz. a collection of playing cards for the last three hundred years; of these the most ancient were thrice as large as those now in use; they were thick and gilded, but no set was perfect.

Among other persons of distinction and fame, I visited Mademoiselle de Scuderie^a. She is now in her ninety-first year, and still vigorous in mind, though her body is in ruins. To survey the sad decay of nature in a woman once so famous, was a perfect mortification; and to hear her talk, with her lips hanging about a toothless mouth, unable to restrain her words from flying abroad at random, reminded me of a Sybil, uttering oracular predictions. Very aged women were employed on this errand, and the infant world thought nothing so wise as nature decayed or quite out of order; and preferred dreams to reasonable and waking thoughts. She shewed me the

^a Magdalene de Scuderie, a celebrated novelist and poetess; she lived three years after this interview with the author.

skeletons of two Chameleons, which she kept alive nearly four years; in winter she covered them with cotton, and in the coldest weather she put them under a ball of copper, full of hot water. She also shewed me an original of M. de Maintenon, who was her old friend and acquaintance; she affirmed that it was extremely like her, and indeed she must have been very beautiful.

I found by the Marquis d'Hopital, who is a member of the Academie Royale, that the war had hindered the foreign correspondence of that body, and rendered its members perfect strangers to the progress of science in England. Nothing seemed more gratifying to him, than to hear of the advancement of Sir Isaac Newton*.

* The advancement here referred to, was Sir Isaac Newton's appointment of Warden of the Mint; this was in the year 1696, when Montague, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, undertook to recoin the currency of the nation. In the year 1698, he was returned to parliament for the University of Cambridge. In the following year he was made Master of the Mint, an office worth from twelve to fifteen hundred a year, and which he held for his life. In 1705 he received from Queen Anne the honour of knighthood.

The Marquis d'Hopital, who was one of the first mathematicians of the age, held Newton in the highest veneration. "Does Mr. Newton eat, drink, or sleep like other men?" said he to Dr. Lister; "I represent him to myself," he added, "as a celestial genius, entirely disengaged from matter." And it was to the honour of Newton, that the French Royal Academy departed from the regulation which makes foreigners ineligible to become members of it, expressly for the purpose of electing him. On the subject of Sir Isaac's feeding, there is an anecdote preserved of him, which is also

I suggested to him the expediency of enlarging the number of the members of the Academy, by admitting other deserving men, and I mentioned Father Plumier as a proper person. He replied that they acknowledged he would be an honour to their body, but that they declined making a precedent for the admission of regulars.^f

I was informed by M. Spanheim, envoy extraordinary from Brandenburg at Paris, who wrote on the use and excellence of ancient medals, that the French king's collection of medals, is not only by far the best in Europe, but that ever was made.

M. Vaillant,^g who is, I believe the best medallist in

illustrative of his great absence of mind. A boiled fowl was under a cover upon the dining table for his dinner,^h to which, being engaged in his study, he did not come. A friend calling on him, waited a long time, and at length, being hungry, he sat down and finished the fowl, replacing the bones and cover. Sir Isaac soon came, and, observing that he was tired and hungry, took off the cover, but seeing the bones only, he said laughingly, "I thought I had not dined, but I find I am mistaken."

ⁱ In the Romish church all persons are said to be regulars, who profess and follow a certain rule of life, and who likewise observe the three approved vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience.—Johnson.

^j Of whom the following strange anecdote is preserved. Vaillant, who wrote the history of the Syrian Kings as it is to be found on medals, coming from the Levant, where he had been collecting various coins, and being pursued by a corsair of Sallee, swallowed twenty gold medals. A sudden and violent storm freed him from the enemy, and he got safe to land with the medals in his belly. On his way

Europe, told me, that he had seen and described the contents of more cabinets than any one had done before him; and that he had made twelve voyages all over Europe and Asia Minor, expressly for that purpose.

M. d'Auzout, who is a celebrated mathematician, and very curious and skilful in architecture, having passed seventeen years in Italy, again expressed himself in very extraordinary terms of commendation concerning the banqueting house at Whitehall. It was, he said,

to Avignon, he met two physicians, of whom he demanded assistance. One advised purgations, the other emetics. In this uncertainty he took neither, but pursued his way to Lyons, where he found his ancient friend, the famous physician and antiquary, Dufour, to whom he related his adventure. Dufour first asked him, *whether the medals were of the higher empire?* He assured him they were. Dufour was ravished with the hope of possessing so rare a treasure; he bargained with him on the spot for the most curious of them, and was to recover them at his own expence. Do the following lines of the Dunciad, to which the above is a note, refer to Dufour, under the name of Mummius?

Speak'st thou of Syrian princes? traitor base!
 Mine, Goddess! mine, is all the horned race.
 True, he had wit, to make their value rise;
 From foolish Greeks to steal them was as wise.
 More glorious yet, from barb'rous hands to keep,
 When Sallee rovers chac'd him on the deep.
 Then taught by Hermes, and divinely bold,
 Down his own throat he risk'd the Grecian gold,
 Receiv'd each demigod with pious care,
 Deep in his entrails—I rever'd them there,
 I bought them shrouded in that living shrine,
 And, at their second birth, they issue mine.—iv.—377.

the most regular and finished piece of modern architecture that he had seen on this side of the Alps; adding that he could not sufficiently praise it, and that the architect, Inigo Jones, had a true relish of what was noble in the art.

CHAP. V.

OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARIES, AND THE LITERATI.

LET us now leave the private houses, and visit the public libraries, and such individuals as are more particularly connected with the history of literature.

M. l'Abbé Drouine, at the college de Boncourt, has several rooms well furnished with books, in one of which is a large collection of catalogues of books, and of such persons as had given any account of authors. These amounted to three thousand in different languages. He said, that for eighteen years he had studied the history of books with the greatest application. His catalogue of authors^a was in four thick folio volumes, disposed alphabetically under family names, and which amounted to 150,000. He had besides, alphabetical memoirs of the authors and their works, and a chronological catalogue.

The king's library is at present in a private house, having been removed from the Louvre; but it is designed for the Palace de Vendosme, one side of that

^a The title of the book was "Index alphabeticus omnium scriptorum, cujusque facultatis, temporis et linguæ."

magnificent square being destined to receive it. It is now distributed into twenty-two rooms, fourteen above, and eight below stairs. The books in the rooms below are on philosophical and medical subjects, and the cases are secured with wires. Into these rooms only is the promiscuous crowd admitted, and but twice in the week. In the middle rooms, which contain the great body of the library, are historical and religious books; Greek and Latin manuscripts; laws of Nations; papers of State and Engravings. This collection contains, at least 50,000 printed books, and 15,000 manuscripts in all languages. Of this library there are two indexes; one of the subjects of the books, another of their authors, together with the titles of such works as are wanting. It is a vast collection, and worthy of so great a prince.

Among other rare manuscripts was one in Greek of Dioscorides, with the plants painted in water-colours; unfortunately the first book was wanting, so that there was no description of animals. In the same room were the Epistles, which is a portion of the manuscript that is at Cambridge, and which has the Gospels only. There was another manuscript of St. Matthew's Gospel lately discovered, in which there are some very notorious interpolations; one in particular, about the sick man going into the pool of Bethesda. There were also the Chinese manuscripts, which were brought during this year, by Father^b Bouvet, as a present to

^b This father, who was a missionary in China, was sent to Europe by the Emperor, to procure other missionaries and artists. He arrived at Paris in the year 1698, when Dr.

the king ; they consist of forty-four parcels of small books, put up in loose covers of purple satin, glued on pasteboard. They treat of natural history, and explain the Chinese characters.

Besides books, there were other curiosities, such as

Lister was there. Among other persons who accompanied him, was Girardini the painter; who, at his return, published a "*Relation du Voyage fait a la Chine,*" in which he shews the remarkable esteem which the Emperor had for F. Bouvet, and the respect that was paid to him. Whenever he went out, he was attended by a retinue as envoy of the emperor. Musicians preceded him, and they were followed by criers and officers, some of whom carried chains, and others whips. Others bore gilded plates, inscribed with the words in large characters, Kingt Chai, i. e. Envoy from the Court. Others gilded dragons on square batons. Next came those who carried the Palanquin. Several walked on each side of the chair, one carried an umbrella of yellow silk, another a large fan, which were only for ornament, as the chair was closed. These honours were very troublesome to him, but there was no remedy except patience.

The Emperor was in Tartary when he heard of the Father's return, at which he expressed great joy, and sent two Jesuits, and a Tartar Mandarin, to congratulate him. F. Bouvet went to receive them on the bank of the river, and falling on his knees, according to custom, he enquired for the health of the Emperor, and the prince his heir; the three envoys answered, that they were both well, and that the emperor had directed them to accompany him to Peking. Upon which, M. Bouvet rose up, and turning himself towards the north, thanked the emperor, fell on his knees thrice, and nine times bowed with his forehead to the very earth. The general of the army performed the same ceremony afterwards, in the name of the province.

a considerable number of Roman and Egyptian antiquities ; among which, were lamps, pateras, and other vessels belonging to the sacrifices ; a sistrum,^c with three loose and running wires across it ; a great variety of Egyptian idols, one of which was of black touchstone, two or three feet long, with hieroglyphics on its front.

I was shewn the very magnificent apartment of M. Huygens^d, who fell into an incurable melancholy. The first symptom of his malady was his neglecting his studies, and passing away his time in playing with a tame sparrow. It is certain that health of body and mind, and even life itself, are only to be preserved by relaxation, and unbending the mind by innocent diversions.

Pere Hardouin took me to the library of the college of Clermont, which consists of two long galleries well furnished with books ; the windows are on one side only, with tables under each, very commodiously placed for reading and writing. The books are arranged according to their sizes, and their titles, being in gold letters on their backs, enable them to be found

^c An instrument used in battle by the Egyptians, not unlike a kettle-drum.

^d Christian Huygens, a very eminent Dutch mathematician and astronomer. He was induced by a pension from the French government to reside at Paris, which he did for fifteen years, until the revocation of the Edict of Nantes, and the consequent persecution and slaughter of the protestants. This bloody business, involving the fate of so many of his friends and countrymen, brought on Huygens a settled melancholy, exasperated perhaps by his sedentary habit, and put a period to his life.

with great facility. At one end of the upper gallery is a very large tableau, an original of Nicolo. The subject of it is the massacre of Agamemnon; it is extremely commendable that, in this picture, in the midst of such fury, and such variety of murders, and half naked figures, not one indelicate posture is to be seen.

The library of the Grand Jesuits, near the gate of St. Antoine, is a very fair gallery of great length and breadth, well furnished with books, and at the very top of the house, where they not only find that books keep much more dry and sweet than below, but that the light is always clear and unintercepted. Pere Daniel, who is the keeper of this library, shewed me a Vestal of copper, which was found at Doe in the country of la Foret; and a very perfect Roman ten pound weight, of red copper, on which was inscribed, Decē Sec. P. X. Also a small square stone urn, or tomb, well carved, and thus inscribed:

D. M.

Supplicio

Noto. Adeste

Superi.^e

M. l'Abbé de Villiers accompanied me to the choir of the Abbey of St. Germain's, and to the Library. In this I saw the psalter, as is believed, of St. Germain, who lived in the sixth century. It is certainly very ancient, being a large quarto of fine purple vellum; on it are written the psalms in large capi-

^e Which may be thus translated:
The habitation of the dead. To Supplicius Notus. May the Gods be propitious!

tals, with commas, or points. The capitals seem to be of gold, the other letters of silver. He also shewed me the codicils, or wax-table books of the ancients, which were thin boards of cedar, about fourteen inches long, and five broad; of these six or eight were united by shreds of parchment, glued upon them. The rims were somewhat raised with a flat and broad border, the better to preserve the wax with which the boards were covered. The style, or steel-pen, had in many places passed through the wax, so that with the assistance of a glass, the boards were visible. The paste, or composition, is, I suppose, the same as is at present used by engravers, to defend the plates from the corroding liquor, where it is not to act upon them; this is a mixture of wax and bitumen.

I also saw a manuscript of three or four leaves, which was written upon true Egyptian paper^f, the flags being disposed lengthways and across, one upon another. Of all writing this is the ^g most ancient specimen which they possess.

^f The byblus, or papyrus, is a rush which grows to the height of eight or nine feet. The use of it for books was not found out till after the building of Alexandria. As books were anciently rolled up, the papyrus was very convenient for this purpose. The inner skin of the stalk was the part used for writing on. From papyrus comes our English word paper.

Beloe's Herodotus. Euterpe, Vol. 1, 325, N.

^g Strabo in his Geography, informs us, that in the beginning of the world, men wrote in ashes, next on barks of trees, then on leaves of laurels, afterwards on sheets of lead, and that at last they came to write on paper. That on stones

Le Pere Mabillon, of the same convent, shewed me some drawings in red chalk, of several very ancient French monuments, which were found between Alsace and Lorraine, where were the remains of a great city. The figures were twelve in number, of which five or six were of Mercury; a cock was at his feet, a chlamys, or short cloak, hung at his back, with a knot at his right shoulder; his hair, which curled about his face, was tied with a ribbon; he had a caduceus in his hand, and a girdle around his waist. These numerous statues in France confirm what Cæsar said of the religion of the Gauls: "*Deum maximé Mercurium colunt: hujus sunt plurima simulacra, &c.^h*" On some of these statues were inscribed a few Roman letters, which were, however, too imperfect to be legible.

The library of St. Genevieve¹ is a large and hand-

they wrote with iron, on leaves with pencils, in ashes with fingers, on the bark of trees with knives, on parchment with canes, and on paper with pens.

^h They chiefly worship the god Mercury, of whom they have many images.

¹ St. Genevieve is regarded by the French as the patroness of Paris. The Church erected in honour of her, is a most beautiful building. In the upper part of the choir, four pillars of jasper, with four golden images of angels at the tops, support the shrine of this saint, in which lie all that remains of her body. Several wax tapers burn before it day and night, and the most devout, kiss the pillars that sustain the admirable relics.

They believe that linen, or any thing else belonging to the body, that has touched the shrine, and been blessed, has the power to chase away maladies, to preserve from dangers, and to make prosperous in all things, those who wear it. In

some gallery at the top of the house; it is well filled with books, and ornamented with busts of the ancient philosophers. The museum abounds with idols, lachrymatories, pateras, and strigils^k; also with coins, measures, and weights, particularly the As^l. Among

consequence of this belief, innumerable vestments are brought to the priest, who is appointed for this office; he fastens them in the cleft of a long pole, and raises them to the shrine, which is nearly as high as the roof of the church; he touches the shrine with them, and having done so, he takes them down, pronounces a benediction on them in the name of the saint, and restores them to the party.

When the city is threatened with any public calamity, the shrine is taken down with great pomp and solemnity, and carried in procession through the streets. On one occasion, when rain had long continued to fall, doing incredible injury, it was decreed that the body of St. Genevieve should be taken down, and carried in solemn procession to Notre-Dame. The procession consisted of all the religious orders in the city, of women as well as men, the parliament, the chamber of accounts, the court of aids, the court of moneys, and the whole body of citizens. And no sooner was the shrine in the open air, than the rain ceased, the sky became serene and clear, and so continued!

Letters, v. viij. p. 39.

^k Lachrymatories are glass vessels, in which tears were dropped and preserved, out of respect or affection for the dead. Pateras are broad and shallow drinking vessels, which were used at public feasts, or in sacrifices. Strigils are instruments, which were employed to cleanse the skin in the baths.

^l The As was either a weight, a coin, or a measure. The weight was a pound of twelve equal parts or ounces, each having a particular denomination, as, uncia, one-twelfth; sextans, one-sixth; quadrans, one-fourth; triens, one-third;

the more ancient Roman brass coins, was a^m sextus, with a caduceus on one side, and a scallop shell on the other; probably because in the earliest ages shell-money was used, (as is the custom at this day in some parts of Africa and India) until Mercury, of whom the caduceus, or staff tipped with wings, and having two serpents twined round it, was the emblem, taught them metallic money.

In this cabinet were ancient liquid measures also, as the congius, of which they have one, an exact copy of that which was in the capital; also a sextarius and a quartarius. Now the congius contains 120 ounces, the sextarius 20, the hemina 10, the quartarius 5, and it is very probable that the cyathus held two ounces and an half, which is the measure so frequently mentioned in the old books of medicine.

On the coin called the Hetrurian As, the double head of Janus is covered with a single cap; and on the head of an ancient statue of Mercury in the king's

quincunx, five-twelfth; semis, one-half; septunx, seven-twelfth; bes, two-third; dodrous, three-fourth; dextans, two-sixth; dejunx, eleven-twelfth As. The measure was the same, the As being twelve inches, or a foot, and the uncia a twelfth part. The coin which was brass, at first weighed a pound, but in the course of ninety-six years underwent three several alterations, and was reduced at first to two ounces, then to one ounce, and finally to half an ounce. The sextans was two ounces, or the sixth part of a pound.

^mAccording to Dr. Arbuthnot and other writers on this subject, the congius contained 128 ounces, the sextarius 20, the hemina 8, the quartarius 4, and cyathus one ounce and half.

garden, was a long cap doubled, as though there were some affinity between those two inventors of trade, arts, and learning.

In this collection were the steel *dies* of the Paduan brothersⁿ, by which these impostors so well counterfeited the best ancient medals, that there is no other mode of distinguishing them, but by ascertaining whether or not they fit these moulds. On this account they are very valuable, being estimated at 10,000 crowns; there are more than a hundred of them. The method which they took was to strike the impression upon old medals; by which contrivance the deception was rendered so much the more compleat; for thus the coin was of the ancient metal, it had the green coat, and the ragged edges.

ⁿ There were four impostors who were engaged in counterfeiting those medals which were by antiquarians called Paduan. John Cavin set the example; he was imitated by Alexander Bassien, who was his companion. Laurentius Parmasen rendered himself famous by the same cheat. Craters, a Fleming, falsified a great many gold medals. There were many other ways of counterfeiting medals, one was by taking a medal that was in great request, erasing the reverse, and substituting another for it; thus attributing to one prince the exploits of another. This was practised on a Galian, the reverse of which was made hollow, and a Trajan inserted in the cavity. On some occasions the head of Priam, of Œnone, of Cicero, or of Virgil, was thus attached to Grecian and Roman medals, after the erasure of the reverse. The surest criterion of the antiquity of medals is the edge, which, in such as are ancient, is never thin and sharp, but thick and uneven.—Vaillant de *Veteris Nummismatis potentia*, &c. Paris, 1701.

There was also a picture about six inches square, finely painted in Mosaic^o; the very small squares were scarcely visible to the naked eye, the whole appearing like the finest etchings in prints; but with the assistance of a good glass, the squares of different colours, as in other Mosaics, were distinguishable. This kind of painting, independently of its durability, has an admirable effect.

There was a very curious ancient writing instrument of thick and strong silver wire, made spiral like a screw; both the ends of it pointed one way, yet at some distance, so that a person might put his fore finger between the points, and the screw would fill the ball of his hand. One of the points resembled the smallest end of a bodkin, and was for inscribing waxen tables; the other was in imitation of the beak of a bird, the point being divided in two like our steel pens. From hence the moderns had their patterns, and now make writing instruments of silver, gold, and prince's metal, which are less useful than steel on a quill, because these are elastic, which the others are not. But as a quill soon spoils, steel is undoubtedly

^o The composition for Mosaic work consists of glass, tin, and lead, formed into small oblong squares, and ranged according to their colours or shades, not unlike types for printing. The pieces are set in soft stucco, spread over a rough stone which is the size of the picture, and when they are firmly fixed, they are polished, and, at a proper distance, resemble a picture. The process is extremely tedious, and the price exorbitant, very small pictures of Mosaic fetching from ten to fifteen thousand crowns. That of the four doves drinking out of a basin is considered as a chef d'œuvre.

the best, especially if used with Chinese ink; which is by far the most durable of all kinds of ink, and never corrodes the steel, but rather preserves it by acting as a varnish.

The library of the late M. Colbert ^p is very spacious and well filled, and in point of neatness excels every one of the kind in Paris. In a room at one end of it are kept all the state papers that relate to his own administration, and to that of Cardinal Mazarin. They form several hundred volumes in folio, which are handsomely bound in Morocco and gilt. The collection of manuscripts is the choicest in Paris; it occupies three rooms, and consists of 6610 volumes. There are many which are extremely rare, viz. Carolus Calous's bible, which is a vast folio bound in vellum; and his prayer book, or hours, all written in golden letters; the Missa Beati Rhenani, of which all the copies were burnt except four; the original deed of the agreement between the Greek and Roman churches at Florence; the regalia, which were agreed on at Lyons; and the book of Servetus, for which he was burnt at Geneva. This M. Colbert purchased at an auction in England, and gave twenty-five crowns for it. The title of it is "*De Trinitatis Erroribus, Libri 7, per Michaellem Servato, alias Reves, ab Aragonia Hispanum, 1531.*" In this book the circulation of the blood through the lungs is mentioned.

We told M. Balure, who shewed us this collection,

^p John Baptist Colbert, marquis de Seguelai; he was very eminent as a minister of state, in the reign of Louis xiv. and as a patron of learning and learned men.

that we came to see *him* as well as the library ; he replied, that it was his lot to have more reputation than merit. He was a little old man, very chearful, and of a ready wit. He complained much of the Emperor's refusal to permit some manuscripts at Vienna to be inspected ; and said, that letters were never at war ; that he, for his part, had most willingly given leave during the war, that at least twenty-four manuscripts might be collated for Dr. Mills's Testament.

In the Sorbonne is a *Livy* in French, in two books, bound in vellum, the first book is almost throughout illuminated with very fine miniatures. It is dedicated to king John, and in the title-page there is a very curious design of that king receiving the present from Pelon Berchorius, who was the translator. Among the illuminations and ornamental pictures in the margin of the book, I could not avoid noticing a well painted one of a brass cannon in the act of being fired ; on each side, near the touch-hole, was a large gudgeon. This shews cannon to have been in use at that time, viz. 1350-64.

This manuscript was the gift of Cardinal Richlieu to the Library ; he in a manner rebuilt the whole college, and greatly beautified it. In the centre of the choir, before the principal altar, is the tomb of the Cardinal ; it is made of white marble, and, in point of simplicity and exquisiteness of workmanship, surpasses any thing of the kind that I ever saw. The design and execution of it were both by M. Girardon, who made the large equestrian statue of Lewis XIV, before mentioned.

The library of the convent of St. Victor is a large

and handsome gallery, with a range of double desks quite through the middle of it, and seats and accommodations for writing for forty or fifty people. It is one of the pleasantest rooms that can be seen, both for the beauty of the prospect, and its freedom from noise, although it is in the centre of so great a city.

M. Morin, the physician, resides in an outer court of this convent. He has an extensive and choice collection of books on medicine and natural history; a museum of natural history and comparative anatomy; a cabinet of shells, another of seeds, of which some were brought from China, a variety of skeletons, &c.

The library of the Celestins is a gallery at the top of the house, which is extremely pleasant, and plentifully furnished with books. The convent itself is a very fine building with a most noble dormitory, which is surrounded by an open gallery or viranda. The pleasure gardens are large, and laid out in alleys, groves, &c. besides these there are several well cultivated kitchen gardens, and a vineyard in good order, the only one within the walls of the city.

In this convent is the cell or apartment of le Pere Hochereau; in which I saw a very choice collection of original paintings of many of the best masters. Among others I noticed the three excellent pictures of St. Peter and the Cock, the Nativity of our Saviour, and the Massacre of the Innocents. They were all originals by that great artist Rembrandt, whose colouring is inimitable, whose invention is at once bold and natural, and whose designs are most correct.

I visited le Pere Malebranche^a, one of the fathers of the congregation of the oratory. The members of this society live handsomely together in a kind of community, but under no rule or restriction. His own apartment was well furnished. He is a very tall lean man, of a ready wit, and a very chearful companion. After an hour's conversation he took me to the public library of the house; it was a light gallery, well furnished with books, with a room at the upper end for manuscripts, of which many were Hebrew and Greek. Among the rest was a Samaritan Pentateuch, which was less ancient than that in the Cotton library at Oxford. Such books in this collection as were written by protestants, were kept in wired cases, which were locked, and could not be inspected without particular leave.

The unrestrained character of this order, reminded me of an anecdote of M. Pinet, a learned and wealthy lawyer. In the decline of life he put himself into *religion*, as it is called among the Fathers, but first of all, he persuaded his *cook* to do the same, for he was resolved not to give up his good soups and such dishes as he liked, whatever might become of his penance and renunciation of the world. The elegant and learned M. le Pelletier, who succeeded M. Colbert as comptroller general of the finances, was actuated by similar feelings; for having voluntarily resigned all

^a A philosopher of great, but temporary celebrity. His chief work, "The Search after Truth," shews him to have been a follower of Plato and Des Cartes, and assimilated him to the Quakers.

his employments at court, and retired to his country seat near Choisy ; he retrenched the rest of his retinue, but retained his cook, and upon one occasion said to his guests, that they might expect a slender philosopher's dinner, but well dressed.

It is surprising that the rest of the orders should so abuse themselves for the sake of *religion*, as they call it ; hunger and ill diet, not only destroy the health of a man, but in spite of all his devotion, put him out of humour, and make him repine at his own condition, and envious of the rest of mankind. Natural philosophy and physic had its origin in the desire to discover a better and more wholesome food than the beasts have, and taught mankind to eat bread and flesh, instead of herbs and acorns, and to drink wine instead of water. These, and a thousand other advantages, were blessings conferred on mankind by the science of medicine ; and the judicious management of these blessings, both in health and sickness, are still under the direction of physicians. Now for melancholy men to reject and cast away these comforts, and all this on a mistaken principle of religion and devotion, seems to me to be most ungrateful to the author of good. I am aware that some of these men have rendered themselves serviceable to mankind by their studies, but they would have been far more so, if, instead of retiring from the world, they had associated with their neighbours, and instructed them by their conversation, and by their example. Wisdom and justice, innocence and temperance, to which they make such pretensions, should not be practised in obscurity, but brought forth to adorn and enlighten the age in which we live. But

to abandon the world, and to renounce and set at nought the conveniences of life and health, may be the height of chagrin, but can have no concern with religion.

I sincerely pitied Father Plumier, a very honest and industrious man, who after his return from India, retained scarcely any thing of himself besides skin and bones ; and yet, by the rules of his order, he was restrained from eating what was necessary for his health, and obliged to live on fish and herbs, which were neither palatable nor nutritious.

I visited several other public libraries, viz. that of the Grands Augustins, the College Mazarin, the College Navarre, but recollect nothing in them worthy of particular mention ; and there were several which I did not see.

The passion for setting up libraries is now become so general, that books are sold at a most exorbitant price. I paid to Anisson thirty-six livres for Nigolius,* and twenty for the *Memoirs de l'Academie des Sciences*, in two volumes, quarto. I was at an auction of books, at which were present about forty or fifty persons, chiefly abbots and monks. The books were sold, as with us, with much trifling and delay, and fetched great prices. *Hispania Illustrata*, A. Sciotti, Ed. Francof. was put up at twenty livres; the biddings

* This would seem to be the ordinary consolation for Frenchmen who have retired from the world. St. Evremond advises a nobleman in disgrace to seek comfort in a *good table*, and to pay great attention to the goodness of his champagne.

amounted by degrees to thirty-six livres, at which price it was sold. The next was a thin folio catalogue of French books, by De la Croix de Maine, in an old parchment cover, which was *put up* at eight livres, at which I was so disgusted, that I left them to contend for it among themselves.

I was much inclined to purchase a compleat set of engravings, by that incomparable artist, Melans, but was asked two hundred livres for one that was imperfect, and of which, twelve, that were equal in value to all the rest, were wanting. Some of his octavo prints, from engravings that were executed at Rome, were valued at a pistole each, and the head of Justinian, which is his master piece, at a louis d'or.

Having said thus much about the public libraries of Paris, I cannot but congratulate the happiness of the French nation, in being so secure as it is against fire; for it is one of the perfections of this city, that the houses of it are so constructed and furnished, as for many ages to have been exempt from conflagrations. Of which exemption the great cause is, that the walls, the floors and the stair-cases, are, with very few exceptions, all of stone; there being no wainscoting, and the very hangings are of silk or woollen. Whereas in London all is combustible, and every man who goes to bed, lies, methinks, like a dead Roman on a funeral pile, ready for his apotheosis, and the paint of the deal boards may serve for incense the more quickly to reduce him to ashes.

CHAP. VI.

OF THE STATE OF THE ARTS IN PARIS.

I WILL now advert to what I saw here that seemed either new in the arts, or unknown in England.

With the pottery of St. Cloud I was exceedingly pleased, for I was unable to distinguish the articles which were manufactured there, from the finest china that I ever saw. As to the paintings on it, it was reasonable to expect that the Chinese artists, would, in this respect, be surpassed by the French; but even the glazing of the French was neither inferior in whiteness, smoothness or transparency; and as to the vessels themselves, they seemed, as far as I could judge, only short of vitrification. The vessels, while in the mould and undried, and before they were either painted or glazed, were as white as chalk; and the composition melted on the tongue like the new clay of which tobacco pipes are made; like that, it felt soft between the teeth, and was scarcely at all gritty; so that I doubt not but that pipe-clay is the very article of which the vessels were made. As to the temper of the clay, the workmen freely owned, that it was thrice or four times made wet, and well beaten, before

it was subjected to the wheel; but I am inclined to think, that it must first be perfectly melted in clear water, and carefully drawn off, that the heaviest parts may subside. This proceeding may be also necessary in the manufacture of courser earthen vessels. To bake the ware to the degree in which we saw it in the most finished articles, three or four fires were necessary, and for some of them eleven.

I could not have expected to find the vase made in such great perfection, although I thought it might equal the Gomron manufacture, which indeed is little less than total vitrification; but I found it far otherwise, and very surprising; and I account it a part of the felicity of the age, to equal, if not to surpass the Chinese, in their finest art. The articles manufactured at St. Cloud, were sold at excessive rates; some sets had been sold at four hundred livres, and for single chocolate cups several crowns were demanded. As for the red ware of China, that has been excelled in England, where the materials are quite as good viz. the soft hæmatites, and the workmen superior. For this improvement we are indebted to two Dutchmen, who were lately at Hammersmith, and had been employed in Staffordshire. There was no kind of modelling or moulding in China, which they had not imitated at St. Cloud: besides which, they had added with very good effect many improvements of their own, which were very beautiful. M. Morin told me in conversation, that they regard as a secret the sand which they employ: this however, could be only for the purpose of colouring. He said also that they used salt of kelp in the composition, and made frit

for glass to be wrought up with white clay. This could not well be, otherwise it would have been discoverable by the taste in the ware in its raw state. This ingenious master further informed me, that for twenty-five years he had been engaged in making experiments, and had only discovered the method within three years.

The glass-house beyond the gate of St. Antoine is well worthy of being seen, but the foundry or casting house was no longer there, having been removed to Cherbonne, in Normandy, on account of the greater cheapness of fuel, which is certainly a very important consideration in the manufacture of glass. I saw here one looking-glass which was silvered and finished, eighty-eight inches in length, forty-eight in breadth, and yet only one quarter of an inch in thickness. A plate of such dimensions could scarcely have been made by the blast of any one person, but must, I apprehend, be run or cast upon sand, as lead is; the toughness and tenacious nature of glass-metal makes this conjecture however doubtful. In polishing these glasses six hundred men are continually employed, and they expect soon to find work in different galleries for a thousand. In the lowest gallery the coarse glass is ground with sand-stone, the very same as is used in pitching the streets of Paris. This stone is beaten to powder, and sifted through a fine taminy or woollen cloth. In the upper gallery, where they give the last hand to the glass, and polish it with ruddle, or with the hæmatites or blood-stone finely powdered, and mixed with water, the men work in three rows, two to each plate. The plate is fixed in white putty, upon

flat tables of stone, which are sawn thin for that purpose. To grind the edges and the borders is extremely disagreeable on account of the harsh and horrid noise, the grating of which could not be endured by any one unused to it, and yet by long custom these men become so very familiar with it, that they carry on conversation with the same facility as they would do in any other situation. This part of the process is however carried on below, and out of the hearing of the other workmen. To see the united labour of so many men upon one subject is very gratifying; one good effect of it has been, that glass is become cheap, and of course common, so that many of the fiacres or hackney coaches, and all the remises have a glass in the front.

Among the bijoux or trinkets made at Paris, are artificial pearls of various sorts, which are to be had in great abundance; the best of them are made of the scales of a fish, called *de la bellete*, or the *bleake*, which is caught in the river Seine. M. Favi, at the Pearle d'Angleterre, told me that he paid one hundred and ten pistoles yearly, for the fish taken in a little river four leagues from Paris; and that sometimes in winter he has thirty hampers of these fish brought to him for the scales only. Some strings of these pearls he sells for a pistole each; they have been dearer; they are very neat and lasting. I inquired of a goldsmith, who is a great dealer in pearl, concerning the pearls that are said to be made from the scales of fish; he assured me that it was really so, and acquainted me with the method, which is, by first pulverizing the scales, and making the powder into a liquid paste with

mucilage of isinglass; the paste is then poured into hollow glass beads, which thus receive from within the peculiar colour of pearl. I asked him if he had any fresh water and muscle pearl? He said, yes; and shewed me one which weighed twenty-three grains, perfectly globular, and of a bluish or carnation colour. This he valued at four hundred pounds, because, he said, it would match with the oriental sea-pearl. He told me that he had seen pearls which were made of fresh-water muscles, that weighed each more than sixty grains, and some of them were pyriform. He added that many pearls were found in the rivers in Lorraine and at Sedan.

The manufactory of the Gobelins, once so famous, is miserably fallen into decay, the probable reason of which is, that the king, having furnished all his palaces, has now no further occasion for it. I saw there the process of inlaying marble tables with all sorts of coloured stones; I also saw the atelier, or workshop, of the two celebrated sculptors Tuby, in which was an admirable copy of a Laocoon in white marble; and those of Quoisivox, in which last, among other rare pieces of sculpture, was an exceedingly beautiful and large Castor and Pollux, after the antique.

At Hubins, the artificial eye-maker's, I saw several drawers full of all sorts of eyes, which were admirable for their contrivance, and for their being adapted to match any iris whatever. In this art the exactest nicety is required, the slightest degree of mis-matching being intolerable. Hubins was formerly an artificial pearl maker; he affirmed that the glass pearls were merely painted in the inside with a paste made of the

scales of the bleake; and that necklaces of these pearls formerly sold at great prices, viz. two or three pistoles each.

Near Montmartre I saw the plaster-quarries, and the manner of burning the stone, which is by kindling an open fire against it. In the space of two or three hours the hardest stone is sufficiently burned. This stone is not peculiar to France, there being quarries of it near Clifford Moore, in Yorkshire, where it is called Hall plaster. There seems no reason why this stone should not be employed like lime in fertilizing the ground.

I cannot omit the mill-stones, with which wheat is ground at Paris, and in other parts of France. They are very serviceable, being perfectly free from any ill taste; and so firm, that not the least grit is ever found in the bread. They are generally formed of different pieces, two, three or more being fastened together with a cement, and surrounded with an iron hoop. The stone is of the honeycomb kind, and produced by stalactites, or the petrification of water of a particular kind. The very same stone is met with on the river banks at Knaresborough, in Yorkshire, and is well worthy of being used in the north of England, where the bread is extremely gritty; a quality which is to be attributed to the use of the sand or moor stone with which the corn is ground there.

CHAP. VII.

OF THE FOOD OF THE PARISIANS.

BREAD and herbs constitute the principal part of the diet of the people of Paris. The bread is, as with us, of two kinds; the common bread is of a good colour and light, it is sold in loaves of three pounds, at three-pence a pound; as for the fine bread, or manchet, it is inferior to the French bread made in London, and since the use of beer is become so common, is often so bitter as not to be eatable.

The gray salt which is used in France, is incomparably better and far more wholesome than our white salt, which spoils every thing that is intended to be preserved by it. For our salt, whether boiled from the inland salt pits, or from sea-water, is little less than quick lime, and burns whatever it touches. It is certain that good salt is not to be made by fierce and vehement boiling, which is the method in use with us, but should be kernalled or granulated by the heat of the sun, which is the French way. The only place in England where I ever saw it rightly made is at Milthorpe, in the Washes of Lancashire, where the brine is full and weighty; yet even there they boil it, al-

though it might be made to deposit the salt without the aid of fire.

During Lent the common people make great use of the white kidney-bean, and the white or pale lentil, of which there are great supplies in the markets dressed and fit to be eaten. The lentil is a kind of pulse with which we are unacquainted in England; although in all other respects our seed shops, and consequently our gardens are much superior. I was much pleased with it.

The roots in France differ much from ours; the turnip in particular which here is long^a, small and excellently tasted, is more useful than ours, being proper for soups, &c. for which ours are too strong. Of late we have indeed cultivated this sort in England, but the seeds when sown there produce roots from six to ten times larger than those which grow in France. Nor do our gardeners understand the management of this root. In France the seed is sown some short time after Midsummer, and before the frost comes the roots are dug up, and being put into sand, without the

^a This turnip is tap-rooted and shaped like our carrot. Paris is entirely supplied with it; it is called *Navette de Virtu*, from the place where it is cultivated. It is certainly sweeter than our turnips and far superior for pottage, and less stringy. It requires a deep light soil, and admits of being sown thicker than the round turnip. The times for sowing are the middle of March and August. They may be preserved in a hole in the ground, if it be not too damp, provided they be covered with lime, and then earthed over so as to throw off the rain.

Phillips's Hist. of Cultiv. Veg. v. 2, p. 166.

tops, are deposited in cellars under ground, where they will keep good till Easter or Whitsuntide; whereas if the frost is permitted to affect them they are rendered quite useless. Carrots are preserved in the same manner. The potatoe, which is so great a relief and blessing to the people of England, and so wholesome and nutritious a root, is scarcely seen in the French markets, but there is a great abundance of Jerusalem artichokes. Of cabbages, except the red sort and the savoy, the French do not seem fond, nor did I once see sprouts in the markets, nor any stalks reserved in the public gardens. To make amends for this, however, the large red onion and garlick are in profusion, and the sweet white onion of Languedoc, leeks, rocambole and escalots are much in use.

It has been observed that the northern people of Europe are very fond of the cabbage, which is a native of the north, and certainly thrives best in cold countries. On the other hand the inhabitants of the south prefer the onion, because the heat, which gives rankness to the cabbage, makes the onion mild. The beech-kail which grows wild on the sea-shore is also ripened and made much more tender and palatable by the cold. Leeks are smaller here than with us, yet they are thrice as long, being planted earlier and deeper, and blanched with greater ease. There is no plant of the onion kind so hardy as the leek, and on that account so proper for the cold mountains, as is shewn by the use which the Welch in all ages have made of it. It is moreover celebrated for its medicinal properties, and is very efficacious against spitting of blood, and all disorders of the throat and lungs.

The markets are filled with long Roman lettuce, which is very superior to our Silesian; the white beet also is very abundant in the months of April and May; its leaves grow long and large and are tied up like our lettuces; the stalks are very broad and tender, and when stripped of the green part of the leaf, are used in soups, and dressed in other ways also. The asparagus is in great abundance here, but during the first month of its coming, the shoots are so bitter as to be unpleasant. The French are such great lovers of sorrel, that whole acres are planted with it; they chiefly use it in sallads, in which its grateful acidity takes away the necessity of the acid juices of lemon, orange or vinegar.

Nothing, however, is so gratifying to a French palate as the mushroom, of which, they have a plentiful supply throughout the winter. This surprised me, till I was informed that it is raised in hot beds. The French gardeners have several forced crops of mushrooms in the year, but during the months of August, September, and October, they make no beds, because they grow at that time spontaneously in the fields. The mode of raising them artificially, is by making long narrow trenches, two or three feet in depth, which are filled with stable litter; on this they strew common earth in the shape of the roof of a house, and over the earth put long straw or litter.^b Out of

^b Lord Bacon says, "it is reported that the bark of the poplar cut small and cast into furrows well dunged, will cause the ground at all seasons of the year to put forth mushrooms fit to be eaten. Some add to the mixture leaven

this earth, after rain, spring the champignons; and if rain does not soon fall, the beds are watered daily even in winter. When they are six days old, they are fit for the market. On some beds they are plentiful, on others not so, which is a demonstration that they spring from seeds, for the beds are alike. One gardener had almost an acre of ground thus cultivated, but his crop failed, and he estimated his loss at a hundred crowns. In general it answers as well as any other vegetable. The new beds are prepared about the latter end of August, towards Christmas, and from that time till March, the crops are plentiful. In the summer they destroy the old beds, and manure the ground with them. In the beginning of April I saw newly gathered morels in the markets, which were as large as a turkey's egg. They are found in great profusion in the woods, and those which grow at the foot of the oak, are preferred. It is customary to string and dry them. The French are excessively fond of this kind of mushrooms; there may, they admit, be bad mushrooms, but deny that there can be bad morels. At first I was very shy of eating them,^c

of bread dissolved in water. It is reported, that if a hilly field where the stubble is standing, be set on fire, it will in the showery season put forth great store of mushrooms."—*Nat. History*, l. 17, 547-8.

^c On this subject Evelyn says, "Mushrooms, by Cicero called *Terræ*, by Porphyry, *Deorum filii*, without seed, as produced by the midwifery of autumnal thunder-storms portending the mischief they cause. They are generally reported to have something malignant and noxious in them, nor without cause. Exalted indeed they were to the second

but from their presence in all ragouts, I became fond of them. The inconvenience which occasionally results from eating mushrooms, is probably owing to the

course of the Cæsarian tables, with the noble title of *bromætheon*, a dainty, fit for the Gods alone; to whom they sent the emperor Claudius (Suetonius in *vita Claudii*) as they since have many others, to the other world. He who reads Seneca, (Epis. 63) deploring his lost friend Annæus Severus, and several other gallant persons with him, who all perished at the same repast, would be apt to ask, with Pliny (*Hist. Natur.* l. 23, c. 23) speaking of this suspicious dainty,—“*Quæ voluptas tanta ancipitis cibi:*” What pleasure can there be in eating such dangerous food? And who indeed would hazard it? So true is that of the poet, he who eats mushrooms, *nil amplius edit*, eats nothing more perhaps all the rest of his life. Athenæus informs us, that the poet Euripides found a woman, and her three children, dead with eating mushrooms. I must refer those who long after this beloved ragout to what our learned Dr. Lister says of them, (*Phil. Trans.* No. 89, 202, *Journey to Paris*,) viz. that many venomous insects harbour and corrupt in the newly discovered species, held in *deliciis*. Those which are held best in flavour, and least dangerous, grow in rich, airy, dry pasture grounds; (*pratensibus optima fungis natura est, aliis malè creditur.* *Hor. Sat.* 4.) on a pedicle of about an inch thick and high; moderately swelling like a shield, round and firm; underneath of a pale flesh-coloured hue, radiated in parallel lines and edges; when these become either yellow, orange, or black they are to be rejected. At Naples mushrooms are raised in the wine cellars in rank earth heaped upon old funguses. This they sprinkle with warm water in which mushrooms have been steeped. In France they water hot beds with an infusion of the parings of refuse funguses, and thus produce mushrooms. These beds will last two or three years. Another method is to soak cuttings of the pop-

noxious^d insects that feed on and inhabit them. I have often seen them full of such insects. It is, how-

lar in hot water fermented with yeast; in this way fungi very eatable and agreeable are produced in a few days."

Acetaria, p. 157-8.

Sir Alexander Dick talks of the origin and wholesomeness of mushrooms in a very different strain: "I expect," he says, "after the first lightning, a deluge of fine mushrooms from my sheep-walks and lands. This wonderful vegetable is raised in a night, by the power of lightning penetrating the warm and dry surface of the earth where pasture is, when a drizzling shower suddenly operates upon the seed or spawn of the mushroom, and prepares every morning a dish of ambrosia. Nothing agrees with me so well as a small dish of these every morning before tea; they are to be toasted before the fire, basted with a little fresh butter, and dashed with a little pepper and salt. The nerves of the whole man feel the benefit of this dish, if taken fasting immediately before tea, and prevent the shakings and palpitations which many people find from that admirable liquid."

^d The following experiments were made by M. Goedart with a view to discover what insects would be produced by the putrefaction of a mushroom. He put one which was ripe into a glass which he set in the earth in a place very much exposed to the sun. This was on the 30th of August. On the next day he found the mushroom full of black worms. On the 11th of September almost all the mushroom except the skin and the root was changed into a black water, like ink, in which he counted sixty-three living worms. In seven days these worms were transformed into flies with red heads and black bodies. They fed on sweet things and lived several months. After these worms were thus changed, he exposed to the sun the water out of which they came. It quickly appeared full of small insects, which were discovered by the microscope to be little serpents. Some of these he

ever, possible that the forced, or garden mushrooms, which chiefly grow in the winter and spring, when insects are torpid, are less liable to be infested with them, than those which are wild, which grow in the autumnal months.

Paris is well supplied with small, but well tasted carp, of which an incredible quantity is consumed in Lent. Oysters also are in great request; the method of conveying them from the sea-ports to Paris is peculiar: they are separated from the shells, and packed in straw baskets, which contain about a peck of them. They are in this way good for stewing and dressing.

During the whole of Lent, the markets are so abundantly supplied with a species of wild duck, called *macreuse*, that it is inconceivable from whence such a profusion can come! This bird has a rank fishy taste, yet in the absence of other flesh, was very acceptable, for it is reckoned fish by the catholics, and is therefore sought after with great industry. At a dinner given by the king at Versailles, was a *Macreuse* pie, which was two feet in diameter.^e It was highly

kept two years, during which they grew considerably. The largest was sixteen lines long and one broad. It was lively and covered with black spots. Besides the flies and serpents, small substances like sand came forth, and by degrees had life. At first it was a shapeless insect, but became a spider with long legs, it did not arrive to its full growth till it was about three years old.—*Metamorphoses Naturelles, ou l'Histoire des Insects*, 3 vol. 12mo. Hague, 1701. par J. Goedart.

* The honour of this invention belongs to France, but it

seasoned, and with the assistance of rare Burgundy,

has been excelled by our native luxury, an hundred squab turkeys being not unfrequently deposited in one pie in the bishopric of Durham.

“The bishop stow, pontific luxury,

An hundred souls of turkeys in a pie.”—Dunciad.

But a more extraordinary pie was produced in the reign of Charles the first, when Jeffery Hudson, the dwarf, was served up to table in a cold pie, at Burleigh on the Hill, the seat of the Duke of Buckingham; and as soon as he made his appearance, was presented by the Duchess to the Queen, who retained him in her service. He was then seven or eight years of age, and but eighteen inches high, and grew no taller till after he was thirty, when he shot up to three feet nine inches. The king’s gigantic porter once drew him out of his pocket, in a mask at court, to the great surprise of all present.

Dr. King, in his *Art of Cookery*, thus alludes to the *Dwarf pie*, and also to another joke often practised, of serving up a living hare in a pie:

“Let never fresh machines your pastry try, }

Unless grandees or magistrates are by; }

Then you may put a dwarf into a pie.

Or if you’d fright an alderman and mayor,

Within a pasty lodge a living hare.

Then midst their gravest furs, shall mirth arise,

And all the guild pursue with joyful cries!

A few words will finish the remarkable history of Hudson. Soon after the breaking out of the great rebellion he was made a captain in the royal army; in 1664 he attended the Queen to France, where he fought a duel with Mr. Crofts with pistols, on horseback, and killed his antagonist at the first fire. After the Restoration, he was imprisoned in the Gatehouse, on suspicion of being concerned in the Popish plot, and died in his sixty-third year, in confinement. It was, perhaps, in allusion to Hudson that Pope said, when he

went down well. There is in Leuwenhoek, a better argument than any which the Council of Trent could think of, to shew that birds in some degree participate of the nature of fish, although their blood is hot, viz. that the globules of the blood of birds as well as fish are oval; this however, applies to all kinds of birds, and in time perhaps those gentlemen may comprehend them all under the denomination of fish.^f

As to the meat in France the best mutton and beef

himself went armed with pistols, that with pistols the smallest man in the kingdom was a match for the largest,

^f On the food of the French during Lent, Sterne has a very humorous passage which he calls "Frogs newly classed."

Comment, Monsieur, mangez la viande Vendredi Saint?

What, Sir, eat meat on Good Friday?

I should have no objection to fish, for that matter, if there were any good; carp and tench I have been surfeited with this Lent; and as to your morue, it can be equalled by nothing but the black broth of the ancients.

Mais, il y a d'autres especes de poisson; que pensez vous des anguilles, et des grenouilles?

But there are other kinds of fish, what think you of eels and frogs? Frogs! ha! ha! ha! Excuse me for laughing. This is the first time I ever heard them classed under the head of fish.

Comment! la grenouille c'est bien du poisson, et elle est permise.

How! surely frogs are very good fish, and they are allowed.

They may be allowed; and in this case I should think the penance very rigid, if I were compelled to eat them, though you were to call them wild-fowl.—A frog-feast to an Englishman, is a very severe fast.—Sent. Journey, 206.

may be as good as ours, but certainly does not excel it; their veal is inferior, being coarse and red. Of this sort of food, no people in Europe understand the management like the English. This superiority was once peculiar to Essex, but it is now generally known that nothing so much contributes to the whiteness and tenderness of the flesh of calves, as frequent bleeding, and giving them abundance of meal and milk. By large and repeated bleeding, the red cake of the blood is exhausted, and the vessels are filled with colourless serum; the cramming of poultry, produces a similar effect, and converts the blood into chyle; and the livers of geese, fed in this manner, attain a vast size, and become white and very delicious.

The French labour under a great prejudice against the meat of England, which they say will not make soup by one third part so strong as their own. It certainly will not make it so salt, and savoury, and strong to the taste; this however, is less owing to the goodness of their meat, which is leaner and drier than ours, than to their keeping it a long time before they use it; by this method a higher flavour and salter taste are imparted, for as meat decays it becomes more salt. Now the English by custom covet the freshest meat, and cannot endure the least tendency to putrefaction; one reason of which is, that our air, being far more moist than theirs, often causes mustiness in meat that is hung, which is intolerable to all mankind; whereas the dry air of France at once improves the taste of meat, and makes it more tender. So that if we could in hanging our meat secure it from mustiness, it would far outdo the French meat, because it

is so much more juicy than that. There were only two sorts of animal food that exceeded what we have in England, viz. the wild pig, and the red legged partridge. These last, though small, far excel the gray sort.

As for the fruits, our residence in France, which was from December to Midsummer, was at the worst time of the year, so that we had none but winter fruits. We had some *bonne chrestienes*, which, though somewhat freer from stones than those in England, were scarcely better tasted. The *Vergoleuse* pear was admirable, but to our regret this sort was exhausted soon after our arrival. The Kentish pippin was in great perfection here, but the markets were chiefly supplied with two sorts of apples, viz. the *calvile*, or winter-queening, which though soft and tender, continued good till after Easter; and the *pome apis*, which serves more for show than use. It is a small, flat apple, and very beautiful, being on one side quite red, and very pale or white on the other, and may well serve ladies at their *toilettes* for a pattern to paint by. This apple is, however, not contemptible after *Whitsuntide*, and which is its peculiar property, it never smells ill if carried about the person.

In their sweetmeats I met with nothing worth mentioning, except a marmalade of orange flowers, which was admirable. It was made with those flowers, the juice of oranges, and fine sugar.

CHAP. VIII.

OF THE WINES AND OTHER LIQUORS MADE USE OF AT PARIS.

THE wines in and around this metropolis, though somewhat weak, are good in their kind; those de Surane are in some years excellent; but in all the taverns it is the prevailing practice to make all the kinds of wine resemble champagne and burgundy. The tax upon wine is now so great, that the same wine which, before the war, was retailed at five pence, now costs more than fifteen pence the quart. This has enhanced the price of all commodities, as well as the wages of servants and labourers, and has caused thousands of private families to lay in wines in their cellars at the cheapest hand, even those who were not used to keep wine.

The wines of Burgundy and Champagne are justly the most valued, for they are light and easy on the stomach; and if they are kept in draught, or even bottled, provided the corks, according to the custom in France, are but loosely put in, seldom affect the

head. The vin de Beaune^a of Burgundy which is red, is the most esteemed, and to me appeared to be the very best of any that I met with. It is in some measure dolce piquante. Volne, which is a pale champaigne, is exceedingly brisk upon the palate ; it is made on the very borders of Burgundy, and participates in the excellence of both countries. Another sort is the vin de Rheims, which is also pale or gray ; like all other Champagnes it is harsh. The white wines of the greatest value are those of Marcou in Burgundy ; Mulso in Champaigne, which is a pleasant but weak wine, and Chabri, which is quick and much liked. In the month of March I tasted the white wines called Condrieu and d'Arbois, but found them both in the must, thick and white, like our wines when they first come from the Canaries, and extremely sweet, yet not unpleasant ; towards summer they become fine, and lose much of their flavour and sweetness. In Burgundy and other places a preparation which is called Vin Bourn, is used to stop the fermentation of wine in the must. Wine with this addition is called Vin des Liqueurs ; a wine glass full of this liquor is taken

^a The following circumstance connected with the Vin de Beaune is mentioned as an instance of naïveté, which subjected the inhabitants of that place to a severe impost :—
 “ Henry the 4th of France in making a tour of his kingdom, stopped at Beaune, and was well entertained by his loyal subjects. His majesty praised the Burgundy, which they set before him—it was excellent ! it was admirable ! ”

“ O Sire ! cried they, do you think this excellent ? *we have much finer Burgundy than this.* ”

“ Have you so ? then you can afford to pay for it, replied the king, and he laid a double tax thenceforward upon the Burgundy of Beaune.”

in the morning as an equivalent to brandy. Vin du Turene en Anjou was one of the best white wines that I drank during my stay in Paris. The wine called Gannetin from Dauphine, is a pale and thin white wine, very much like the Verde of Florence ; it is sweet, and of a very pleasant flavour, especially while it is des liqueurs.

The red wines of Burgundy when des quatres feuilles, as they term it, or four years old, are thought to be much more wholesome, and are permitted to be used in some cases of sickness. The same term is applied to Volne, or any other wine which is intended to be kept till it be old. There are also stronger wines which are in request at Paris, viz. the Camp de Perdris, Hermitage from the Rhone, and Coste Bruslee ; both these are red wines, well tasted and hot to the stomach. But the most excellent wines for strength as well as flavour, are the red and white of St. Laurence, a town between Toulon and Nice in Provence. These wines, which are a most delicious muscat, are of the kind which the Romans called vinum passum, that is made of grapes which were half dried in the sun ; for the grapes, especially the white muscadine, being generally ripe sooner than other grapes, it is the custom to twist the stalks of the clusters, so that the fruit can no longer receive any nutriment from the vine, but hang down, and grow dry in the sun, which at that time, August, is violently hot, so that in a few days they become almost raisins of the sun. From this insolation the flavour of the grape is exceedingly heightened, and the strength, and oiliness, and body of the wine are vastly increased. The red St. Lau-

rence was, I think, the best wine that I ever tasted. Besides these, here are also the white wines of Orleans, Bourdeaux, claret, and very excellent wines from Cahors; also white and red Cabreton, which are strong and delicious, and all kinds of Spanish wines, as sack, palm, red and white mountain, malaga and sherry; of late indeed the French prefer the strongest wines.

But there is no feasting which is not followed by drinking at the dessert all sorts of strong waters or liqueurs, particularly ratafia, which is a sort of cherry brandy made with peach and apricot kernels, and is highly piquant, and of a most agreeable flavour. Of these and such like kernels, the pungent and acrimonious quality was not unknown to the ancients; nor were they ignorant that to some animals they proved poisonous. Dioscorides informs us, that a paste made of bitter almonds will throw birds into convulsions, and immediately kill them. These animals having but little brain, are the more readily affected by this volatile venom, and it is at least possible, that ratifia may have similar effects in some delicate constitutions, and feeble nerves, and that this may be one cause of the many sudden deaths which have occurred of late.

Vattee is an aromatic liqueur made at Provence, as is pretended from muscadine wine distilled with citron pills and orange flowers. Fenouillet, de l'isle du Rhee, is another strong water; it resembles our aniseed water, and is much liked. These and many other sorts of liqueurs, and strong wines, foreign and domestic, are usually brought in at the latter end of the dessert, and are freely used. This custom, however, is new, having sprung up within a very few years; it

was introduced by the nobility and gentry, who having suffered much in the long campaigns, had recourse to these liquors, to enable themselves to withstand the severity of the weather, and the hardships and fatigue of watching during the night; and at their return to Paris they still continued the use of them at their tables. I wonder at the great change in this respect of this sober nation, but luxury like a whirlpool draws every thing within its influence. Sure I am, that the Parisians of both sexes are within a few years strangely altered in their constitutions and habits of body; from lean and slender, they are become fat and corpulent, which, in my opinion, is unlikely to proceed from any thing so much as from the daily use of strong liquors. To which may be added coffee, tea, and chocolate, which are now as much in use in private houses in Paris, as they are in London. These sweetened liquids must, it is obvious, greatly contribute to corpulence. There are very many public coffee-houses where all the above liquors are sold, and ale-houses without number.

With regard to coffee and tea, it was necessity and the want of wine naturally, as in the Indies and Persia, or the prohibition of it, as in the countries under the influence of the Mahometan religion, that put men upon the invention of them; chocolate indeed was found out by the poor starved Indians, as ale was with us; yet what but a wanton luxury could dispose these people, who abound in excellent wines, of all liquors the most cordial and generous, to ape the necessities of others. Mighty things, indeed, are said of these drinks, according to the humor and fancy of the

drinkers. I rather believe that they are permitted by God's providence, for the lessening the number of mankind by shortening life, as a kind of silent plague. They who plead for chocolate, say, that if taken two hours before dinner, it gives them an appetite. Right! who doubts it? You say you are much more hungry having drank chocolate, than you would have been if you had drank none; that is, your stomach is faint, craving, and feels hollow and empty, and you cannot stay long for your dinner. Things that thus quickly pass out of the stomach, are but little welcome to it, and nature makes haste to dismiss them. There are many things of this sort that impose upon us by procuring false hunger. The wild Indians, and some of our people, no doubt, digest it, but our pampered bodies can make little of it, and to most tender constitutions it proves perfect physic, at least to the stomach, by forcing its contents into the intestines; that, however, only impairs its functions, and hastens the decay of nature^b.

^b Such a Philippic as this against the articles of which these salutary beverages are prepared, can now only excite a smile at the prejudices of the writer of it. Coffee is not only a refreshing and very agreeable article of diet, but is recommended by the most eminent of the faculty in various disorders. Tea has often been the subject of attack by medical and other writers, and there are, it must be acknowledged, individuals with whom the finest teas manifestly disagree. Dr. Whytt accuses it of hurting the stomach, but obviates his own objection, by admitting that it then only disagreed with him, when his stomach was already out of order. Mr. Hanway also made a very severe attack upon tea, which Dr.

The greediness with which the Spaniards drink this beverage^c is very remarkable. They take it at least five times daily, and the females were at one time so much addicted to its use, that they drank it in the very churches; and it was not without difficulty, that the confusion thus caused could be remedied.

The ancient Romans did better with their luxury; they took their *tea and chocolate* after, but not before a full meal; and every man was his own cook upon this occasion. Julius Cæsar, resolving to enjoy himself, that is to eat and drink to excess with his friend Cicero, to whom he was engaged at dinner, before he lay down to the table *emeticen*^d *agebat*, which I con-

Johnson successfully defended against him. Johnson was inordinately fond of tea, and quaffed it profusely; and Boswell says, that he assured him he never felt the least inconvenience from it. And with regard to chocolate, it is undoubtedly a nutritious beverage in health, and a restorative in emaciating diseases.

^c The Spaniards are so much distinguished for their abstinence from intoxicating liquors, that it is common among those of the best quality, at the age of forty not to have even tasted pure wine. It is an honour to the laws of Spain, that a man who can be proved to have been *once drunk*, loses his testimony. I never was more pleased with any reply than with that of a Spaniard, who, having been asked whether he had a good dinner at a friend's table, said, "Si Sennor, a via sabrado;" yes Sir, for there was something left.

Sir W. Temple. Misc. 3, p. 490.

^d Literally he excited vomiting, which he might have done by mere irritation of the fauces. The practice of causing sickness was at one time very common, and was resorted to either as a preservative of health, or to obviate the

strue thus, he prepared for himself his tea and chocolate, or something to make a quick riddance of what he had eaten and drank.

I must not forget that among the liquors used in Paris, cyder from Normandy is one ; the best of that kind which I drank was of the colour of claret, that is reddish brown. The apple of which it was made, was called *frequins* ; it is round and yellow, but too bitter to be eaten, and yet the cyder is as sweet as any new wine. It keeps good many years, and improves both in colour and taste. I drank it frequently at the house of a Norman gentleman, by whom it was made, otherwise I should have doubted whether it was not mixed with sugar.

There are two kinds of water in use at Paris ; that of the Seine, which passes through the city, and that which is brought by the aqueduct of Arcueil ; which, by the way, is one of the most magnificent buildings in Paris, and well worth going to see. This noble

effects of repletion, by discharging the contents of the stomach ; and, which is very disgusting to modern delicacy, the operation was performed in concert. There is, says Boerhaave, a tree growing in Paraguay, whose emollient leaves are very much in use with the Americans, in the form of tea or decoction for vomiting, as our common green tea is used without sugar for the same purpose by many of our Europeans. The native Americans were followed in this practise by the Spaniards ; and I know some young men who formerly invited themselves to drink the Paraguay tea, with which they all vomited together into one large vessel, as was formerly the custom throughout all Europe ; but this kind of vomit was laid aside, as too much weakening the stomach.

Cicero ad Atticum.—Academ. Lect. v. vj. p. 403.

canal of hewn stone conveys the water a distance of fifteen miles. The water of the Seine is very pernicious to strangers, nor are the French themselves exempted from its ill effects if they come from any distance; but the natives of Paris are not injured by it. The complaints to which it gives rise are looseness and the dysentery. I am inclined to think that the ponds and lakes that are let into the river to supply the sluices of the canal de Briare, are in great measure the causes of these bad qualities of the Seine water. People who are upon their guard, purify it by filling their cisterns with sand, and suffering the water to pass through it. By this process the water is rendered fine, cool, palatable and salutary. As to the spring water from the Maison des eaux, it is not liable to the above objection, but keeps the body firm. It is, however, suspected to give rise to the stone, to which the people of Paris are infinitely subject. Of the tendency of this water to deposit calcareous earth, I met accidentally with an instance as I came from seeing the aqueduct of Arcueil. In the very road, near the wall of the aqueduct, a great number of earthen pipes, which had served to convey the water, were deposited for the repairs of the roads. The tube of these pipes, which was four inches in diameter, was, by a firm petrification, contracted to the breadth of a shilling. It was on this account necessary to destroy the pipes, as they were rendered altogether useless. Now that which petrifies in these pipes, is apt to petrify

also in the kidneys and the bladder of individuals whose constitutions are weak.

* The results of modern chemistry, in its examination of calculous concretions, are thought to invalidate the ancient opinions as to the causes of calculi, and it is now becoming the general opinion, that calculus is not an original, but a symptomatic affection, and dependent upon a temporary diseased action of the first passages. It is, however, an obstinate fact, that there is a far greater proclivity to this complaint in particular situations, and that in some, there is a remarkable immunity from it. Upon what principle this is to be explained, but by referring to the liquid ingesta as its cause, it is the more difficult to say, as in those situations where there is the proneness to the evolution of calculus, the symptoms, denoting its presence, take precedence of those which indicate any derangement of the digestive organs, or any infringement of the general health.

CHAP. IX.

OF THE RECREATIONS OF THE PARISIANS.

THE amusements of the people of Paris chiefly consist of theatrical performances, gaming, walking, or riding in carriages. There are two distinct houses for stage performances ; one for operas, the other for comedy and tragedy. I visited the opera but seldom, not being a sufficient master of the French language to understand it when sung ; but I was several times at the performance of *l'Europe Gallante*, which is considered as one of the very best. The scenery is very fine, and the music and singing are admirable. The stage is large and magnificent and well filled with actors ; the scenes are well suited to the subject, and as quick in the removal as can be imagined. The dancing is exquisite, and by the best masters of that profession in the city. The dresses are rich, proper, and of great variety.

It is surprising that these operas are so well frequented ; even great numbers of the nobility, many of whom can sing them all, attend daily. To us strangers it was a very troublesome circumstance, that the performances were so much disturbed by the volun-

tary songs of private individuals.^a It really seemed that the spectators were as much actors as the persons who were employed upon the stage. The operas are performed under the roof of Monsieur, which is indeed a part of the Palais Royale; but the theatre for comedies, &c. is in another part of the town. The disposition or arrangement of both is much the same, but of the two, the theatre is the smallest; in this last the stage itself is let, and it is, particularly for strangers, the most commodious place to see as well as hear.

I was present at the performance of several trage-

^a If the origin of the French Opera be considered, the interruption here complained of with so much apparent justice, will excite less surprize. It was at first set on foot by some gentlemen, who acted not for money, but for their own diversion. There were about thirty of them. When it first came to be acted for money, one of the actresses received one hundred and twenty crowns for acting one season. This was then looked on as so vast a reward for a singer, that she got the name of *La cento vinti* by it.—Spence on the authority of Signor Crudeli of Florence.

An Englishman, however, will make no allowance for such disturbances; and a very humorous anecdote of the celebrated Matthew Prior is on record, which shews how much he disliked the interruption, and the address with which he put a stop to it: Prior was at the opera, and in the box where he sat, was a French gentleman, who seemed much more pleased in hearing himself sing than the actor, and who sung in so high a key, as to make it very difficult to hear the performances. Prior hissed; the volunteer performer, supposing that the actor was the object of the disapprobation, interposed, observing that he was the very best singer on the stage. Prior replied, yes, but he makes such a noise, that I cannot hear you!

dies, but was prevented from entering into the spirit of them by my imperfect knowledge of the language. The after pieces were, however, very entertaining to me, particularly those of Moliere ; viz. *Vendange de Suresne* ; *Pourcegnac* ; *Crispin Medecin* ; *le Medecin malgre lui* ; *le Malade Imaginaire*, &c. Indeed it is now the custom on the French stage to tack on to the tragedies one of these light pieces, so that persons may suit themselves to their different tastes.

All agree in thinking that, although Moliere's plays have less of intrigue in them, his characters are incomparable ; and not to be exceeded for truth and nature. It is for this reason, that so many of them are comprised in two or three acts ; for without a well contrived intrigue, his characters, in which his excellence consisted, would have failed him.

It is reported of Moliere, that in acting the *Malade Imaginaire*, he was seized with a disorder, which in less than two hours proved fatal to him. In going from the stage, he said to the audience, " *Messieurs, J'ay joue le Malade Imaginaire ; mais je suis veritablement fort malade !*" Gentlemen ! I have personated the man who fancied himself ill, but I am in reality extremely ill myself. M. Perrault, in his life of Moliere, has omitted this circumstance, but it is undoubtedly true. He has, however, censured him for his folly, in making the art of physic itself the subject of his ridicule, instead of selecting such individuals as were the disgrace of that profession.

The almost sudden death of this actor, is a striking proof of the success of his performance of the character

which he himself designed^b; and evinces the fulness

^b Dr. Lister seems to be under some misapprehension of the manner and cause of Moliere's death, which he represents to be the effect of the passion which he was exhibiting. This, however, was not the case; for although his death was the immediate consequence of his exertions in the performance, yet it was the effect of a disorder, under which he had long laboured. He was, says his biographer, labouring under a pulmonary complaint, and was strongly urged by his wife, and Baron the actor, to defer the representation. "What, cried Moliere, must then become of so many poor people who depend upon it for their bread? I should reproach myself for having neglected for a single day to supply them with necessaries." He exerted himself on the stage with unusual spirit, and his efforts brought on the rupture of a blood-vessel, by which he was suffocated. This happened in February, 1673, when he was in the fifty-third year of his age.—Aikin's Gen. Biog.

The following account, however, strikingly illustrates the author's reasoning:—Towards the latter end of the year, 1644, a company of stage-players were at a place called Vitry, entertaining the people with comedies, but there happened something really tragical to one of the actors. This man was to perform the part of one dead, and then he was to revive again by magic. He acted his part too truly, and baffled the necromancer's art, for when he was touched with the talisman, as the rules of the play required, in order to his resurrection, the inanimate trunk could not obey. The man was dead indeed!

Whether he overstrained himself in imitating the silent, still, and irrecoverable privations of that passive state, and gave his soul a strong temptation, with a fair opportunity to escape its bonds, or whether heaven had a particular hand in so remarkable a catastrophe, I will not presume to divine; but this occurrence has put the people quite out of conceit with plays.

of his conception of the passion, which he could so well describe. It is also an example of the great danger of strong and vehement passions, such as joy and fear, by which, history informs us that many have been instantly destroyed.

The following anecdote affords a good illustration of Moliere's method of procuring materials for his satirical comedies. He sent for Dr. M. a physician of much worth, and at that time held in great esteem at Paris, though now a refugee in London. Dr. M. sent him word that he would come to him provided he would agree to two conditions; which were that he should only reply to such questions as should be asked him, without entering on any other subject, and that he should oblige himself to take such medicines as might be prescribed for him. But Moliere, finding the doctor too hard for him, and not so easy to be duped as he expected, refused the conditions. His

Sage Hali, remember the Arabian proverb, which says, "It is not good to jest with God, death, or the devil; for the first neither can nor will be mocked; the second mocks all men, one time or other; and the third puts an eternal sarcasm on those who are too familiar with him."

Letters of a Spy at Paris, vj. 82.

On the death of Moliere, the following verses were written :

' Here lies the matchless man, who on the stage
The ape appear'd of every rank and age;
Who striving death as well as life to act,
Transform'd theatric fiction into fact.
Th' ingenious copy so delighted Death,
To realize the fraud—he stopt his breath.'

Nouv. Siècle de Louis xiv.

object was to make a scene, as ludicrous, by exposing one of the most learned men of the profession, as he had before done with regard to the quacks. If this was really his intention, as in all probability it was, Moliere possessed as much malice as he did wit; which last quality ought only to be employed to correct the vices and follies of men pretending to knowledge, and not to turn to ridicule the art itself.^c

There is one observation I cannot refrain from making on the French stage, and that is, that obscenity and immorality are no more to be met with on

^c The chief subjects of Moliere's ridicule, were the *petits maitres*, the pedants of both sexes, and the faculty. The former classes kissed the rod. The faculty sheltered itself in its gravity, and the strong hold it had on the feelings of society. But his attack on the hypocrisy of the clergy, in his *Tartuffe*, was an inextinguishable offence, the consequences of which pursued him after death; for the archbishop of Paris, Harlai, a man of slender virtue, refused him burial in consecrated ground, and it was only by the king's interference that he was at length interred privately in a chapel. Even the populace resisted his burial, till their consent was purchased by money!

On this occasion, the following Epigram was produced :

Since at Paris they deny
Rites funereal to supply,
To the bard of happy vein,
Who could vice and folly feign,
Thinking it a deadly sin
Comic actor to have been—
Why on dunghills are not laid
Bigots of the self-same trade?

it,^d than in the conversation of people of good breeding and fashion.

On one Sunday during Lent, I heard a sermon at La Charite, which was preached by a very young man who was an Abbot. His subject was the descent of the angel into the pool of Bethesda, and his troubling the waters of it. I was not so good a Frenchman as to understand all that he said, but he advanced many good arguments for the necessity of grace, and shewed what were the means of attaining it. I was extremely surprised at the vehemence of his action, which seemed to me to be altogether comic, and like that of the performers whom I had seen on the stage a few days before. His expressions also were in too familiar a style.

^d This commendation of the French stage, conveys a just reflection on that of England, which was then notoriously tainted with profaneness, immorality, and the "taste obscene." All the great writers for the stage were disgustingly impure :

In all Charles's days

Roscommon only boasts unspotted lays.

At length, says Johnson, Collier, a fierce and implacable non-juror, walked out to battle, and assailed at once most of the living writers, in a work which he called "A short view of the immorality and profaneness of the English stage." His onset was violent ; those passages, which, while they stood single, attracted little notice, when they were accumulated, and exposed together, excited horror ; the wise and pious caught the alarm, and the nation wondered why it had so long suffered irreligion and licentiousness to be openly taught at the public charge. The dispute was protracted through ten years ; at length Comedy grew more modest, and Collier lived to see the reward of his labours in the reformation of the stage.

I have always been accustomed to think that a sermon to the people, requires a grave and embellished kind of eloquence, accompanied with a certain dignity of action. It is, however, possible, that this method is most suitable to the customs and manners of the French,^e who are all motion, even when they speak on the most easy and familiar subjects.

^e The following anecdote of the celebrated Boudelot, who has been called the Tillotson of France, affords a happy illustration of the truth of this remark. This Father was to preach on a Good-Friday, and the proper officer came to attend him to Church; his servants said he was in his study, and that if he pleased he might go up to him. In going up stairs he heard the sound of a violin, and as the door stood a little ajar, he saw Boudelot stripped into his cassock, playing a good brisk tune, and dancing to it about his study. He was extremely concerned, for he esteemed that great man highly, and thought he must be run distracted. However at last he ventured to tap gently at the door. The Father immediately laid down his violin, hurried on his gown, came to him, and with his usual composed and pleasing look, said, "Oh, Sir, is it you? I hope I have not made you stay. I am quite ready to attend you." The poor man, as they were going down, could not help mentioning his surprize at what he had seen and heard. Boudelot smiled and said, "Indeed you might well be a little surprised, if you don't know any thing of my way on these occasions, but the whole of the matter was this: in thinking over the subject of the day, I found my spirits too much depressed to speak as I ought to do, so had recourse to my usual method of music and a little motion. It has had its effect, I am quite in a proper temper; and go now with pleasure to what I should have else gone in pain."—Spence's Anecdotes, p. 40.

A far more ludicrous method was practised in Spain on a Good-Friday. The preacher, after expatiating on what our

Gaming is here a perpetual diversion, if it be not rather one of the excesses of the town. But games of mere hazard are strictly forbidden, and severe penalties are inflicted on the occupier of any house, in which games of this description are permitted, whether the house be public or of a private character. This regulation was made on account of the officers of the army, who used during the winter to lose the money at play, with which they were entrusted for the purposes of procuring recruits, and renewing their equipages in the spring. And indeed, such quick games as Bassot, Hazard and the like, where fortune is all in all, are great temptations to ruin, by the sudden emotions which they are apt to excite in the players; while games where skill, and cunning, and much consideration are required, afford a man time to cool, and recover his presence of mind, if at any time great losses have discomposed him; for he must either quickly come to himself again, or forfeit his reputation for skill in play, as well as for prudence in the management of his money.

I happened to be at Paris during the fair of St. Germain, which lasts at least six weeks. The place where it is held well bespeaks its antiquity, for it is a pit, or rather a mere hole in the middle of the Faux-

Saviour had suffered for us, and of our ingratitude towards him, at length gave himself a great box on the ear, and said "Lord, must I be so ungrateful and so wicked?" Upon which the whole congregation, consisting of four thousand persons, fell to boxing themselves all at once, making the same exclamation!—*Voyages faites en divers tems, &c.*

Amsterdam, 1669,

bourg, and belongs to the great abbey of St. Germain. It is on all sides surrounded by descending ground, and on some parts is more than twelve steps deep, so that the city is raised six or eight feet above it. The building is a mere barn, or frame of wood work tiled over, the place, where the fair is held, consists of many long alleys crossing each other; the floor unpaved, and so extremely uneven, as to be very uncomfortable to the feet, and, were it not for the vast crowd of people, to make it difficult to preserve an upright posture. All this denotes the great antiquity of the fair and the rudeness of the first ages of Paris, and serves, as a foil to set off its present refinement in all other respects. The fair consists of toy shops of most kinds, and of such articles as are seen at Bartholomew fair in London, viz. pictures, cabinet-work, linen and woollen drapery, but no books. Many of the great milliners' shops are removed hither from the Palais. There are many confectioners' shops, where the ladies are commodiously treated, and also coffee-shops, where that beverage and the strong liquors before spoken of are sold.

The great conflux of people is at night, after the theatres are closed. The great diversion is raffling for all things that are vendible, nor is there any shop that is not furnished with two or three raffling-boards. Monsieur the Dauphin, and other princes of the blood come to grace the fair at least once during its continuance.

Knavery is here, as with us, in great perfection; and the pick-pockets and cut-purses are equally dexterous. A pick-pocket came into the fair at night

extremely well dressed, and attended by four lacqueys in handsome liveries. He was caught in the fact, and though more swords were drawn in his defence than against him, yet he was apprehended, and delivered into the hands of justice, which is here summary and no jest. I was much surprised at the impudence of a show-man, who exhibited on his booth the pictures of some Indian beasts with hard names; but of four that were thus painted I found only two, and those very ordinary ones, viz. a leopard and a racoon. I asked the fellow what he meant by so deceiving the public, and whether he was not afraid, that in the end he should be cudgelled? He answered with equal readiness and effrontery, that it was the fault of the painter; that he had employed two artists to paint the racoon, and that both of them had mistaken the beast; he added, however, that though the pictures were not well designed, they still served to grace his booth, and to bring him custom.

At this fair I saw a female elephant between eight and nine feet high. It was ill fed, and very lean, but no creature could be more docile. I remarked that in making her salutes to the company, she bent the joints of her legs very nimbly; also that the toe-nails were large, and almost five inches long; and that its ears were entire. This was brought from the continent; but one which I saw in London thirteen years before, and which came from the isle of Ceylon, had its ears scallopt, and its tail set with two rows of large, thick, and stiff black hairs. It was therefore of another species.

The great and constant business of people of qua-

lity in the mornings is paying visits in carriages; in the evening the Cour de la Mayne is much frequented, and is a great rendezvous of persons of the best quality. The place indeed is as commodious as it is pleasant; there being three alleys of great length ranging with the Seine, planted with high trees, and inclosed at each end with magnificent gates; in the centre is a very large circle to enable the carriages to turn. The middle alley or drive affords room for at least four rows of carriages, and each side alley for two rows; so that, supposing each row to contain eighty carriages, the whole when full may amount to between six and seven hundred. On the field side, adjoining the alleys, are several acres of meadow ground planted with trees in the form of the quincunx, in order that the company may, if so disposed, walk on the turf in the heat of summer, and yet be protected from the sun.

In one respect this cours is inferior to the drive in Hyde-Park; viz. that if it be full, you cannot twice in the hour meet with the company you may wish to see; and besides, you are confined to one particular line. Occasionally too, the princes of the blood visit the cours, and drive at pleasure from one alley to another, causing a strange interruption and confusion. Besides, if the weather has been rainy, the road, being very badly gravelled, becomes so miry that there is no driving on it.

They who are disposed to take the air further out of the town have the choice of two woods, one at its eastern, the other at its western extremity; viz. the Bois de Bologne, and the Bois de Vincennes. Both

are commodious ; but the latter affords most shade, and is the pleasantest. In the outer court of the latter are some very ancient Roman statues. In the Bois de Bologne is a castle, which is called Madrid. It was built by Francis the first, and is altogether Moresque, in imitation of one in Spain. It has at least two rows of covered galleries passing quite round the four fronts of it. Such an arrangement in a hot country must be very refreshing and delightful. This structure is said to have been designed for a much hotter climate than that of France, but which that king had no inclination to visit a second time.

Towards eight or nine o'clock the greatest part of the company return from the cours by water, and land at the garden gate of the Tuilleries, where they walk in the cool of the evening. The disposition of this garden is in the best taste, and the garden itself is in its prime ; so that M. le Nôtre, who contrived it, had the satisfaction not only of seeing it in its infancy, but of enjoying the perfection of his labours.

The moving furniture of this garden at this hour of the evening, is certainly one of the noblest sights. At my departure, when I took my leave of a lady of quality, Madame M. she asked me what pleased me most that I had seen in Paris ? I answered her civilly, as I ought to do ; she would not, however, accept my compliment, but urged me for a further answer. I then told her, that I was just come from seeing what pleased me most, which was the middle walk of the Tuilleries

in June, between eight and nine at night; adding that I did not think there was in the whole world a more agreeable place than that alley, at that time of the evening, and of the year.

CHAP. X.

OF THE GARDENS IN AND NEAR TO PARIS.

I AM now to speak of the gardens of Paris, and shall offer a short account of all such of them as I saw, that were of any note.

The garden of the Tuilleries is very extensive, and on two of its sides has a terrace; one of them, being adjacent to the Seine, is planted with trees, and is made very amusing with vast parterres, in the centre of which are large fountains of water, which are constantly playing. One end of this terrace adjoins the front of that magnificent palace the Louvre; the other end slopes off, and for the sake of the prospect, lies open to the fields. The rest of the garden is distributed into walks, lawns and shrubberies, with a great number of seats for the accommodation of those who are tired: there was in the Tuilleries one embellishment with which I was greatly delighted, viz. an amphitheatre, with the stage, pit, and seats, and covered alleys, leading from all sides to the stage, and affording the most charming scenes. Nothing can be more pleasing than this garden, in the shrubberies of which, although it is almost in the heart of

the city, blackbirds, thrushes, and nightingales, sing without restraint or interruption; for no birds are suffered to be destroyed here, and the fields around and close to Paris, abound with partridges and all other game.

The garden of the Palais of Luxembourg is also extremely large, and has in its appearance something champetre, or rural, not unlike St. James's park. It is less frequented now than it was formerly, in consequence of the injury done to the walks by the hard winters, which have destroyed the fences. Still, however, it has its fountains and parterres, and some well shaded alleys; and in point of the purity and salubrity of the air, it is preferable to the Tuilleries, being more elevated, and nearer to the fields of the Fauxbourg of St. Germain.

The king's physic garden^a is very spacious, and

^a Dr. Lister's description of this delightful garden is far from doing justice to it; I shall therefore supply its deficiency by inserting the following account of it, evidently drawn up by an eye-witness:

"There is a garden in this city, (Paris) which is called the king's; it is appropriated by the royal bounty of the kings of France, to the service and improvement of the students in physic. A yearly stipend is settled on an approved physician, whose office it is to take care that no plant or herb be wanting, and to deliver a lecture in latin every morning, during the summer, on the simples which grow there. He who now fills the office is a very learned and ingenious man, and takes great pains to make the students, who are very numerous, perfect herbalists; and he demonstrates the plants with an action so graceful, and explains them with such eloquent language, and with so composed a spirit, that all who are

well furnished with plants; it is open to all well dressed people. There is in it a great variety of ground, as ponds, woods, meadows, and mountains;

present at his lecture, are charmed and made in love with botany.

The garden is open to all gentlemen, on condition that they leave their swords with the gate-keeper, to prevent quarrels and mischief. I enter daily among the rest, and when the lecture is over, I retire into one of the most pleasant shades in the world. It is a gravel-walk the whole length of the garden, on each side of which grow lofty trees, planted so thick, and intermixing their leaves and branches so closely at the top, that they compose a perfect natural umbrella over the walk, from one end of it to the other, that not a beam of the sun can enter. But that which creates in me the greatest complacency, is, that the further end of the walk is not closed by a high wall, but whether you sit, or stand, opens to you a very agreeable and large prospect of the country adjacent to the city, which fills the eye with incredible delight.—Letters. &c. vol. 2. p. 28-29.

Yet all this falls vastly short, in point of resemblance to nature, of the hortus pensilis which belongs to the winter palace of the Emperor of Russia. It is on a level with the grand apartments, and is six fathoms above the ground. In this are gravel walks, grass plots, parterres of flowers, rows of orange trees, birch, pines, lime trees and shrubs of various kinds, exactly as in other pleasure gardens, with bowers and arbours all round it. The whole is heated in winter by means of flues conveyed along the vaults beneath. Over the garden is a wire net, so fine as to be scarcely perceptible. Here are all kinds of singing birds, foreign as well as native, flying about from tree to tree, as in the woods from whence they were brought, picking up the proper food distributed for them, making their nests, or warbling among the branches.

besides a vast extent of level, by which arrangement, it is fitted for the accommodation of most kinds of plants. I first saw it in March, with Dr. Tournefort, and Mr. Breman, the chief gardener, who is a very intelligent and industrious man. The green-houses are well filled with tender exotics, and the parterres with simples, few of which were yet to be seen ; it was, however, easy to form an opinion of them from the trees and shrubs, and such other plants as preserved their heads during winter.

Dr. Tournefort told me, that during the summer he delivered thirty lectures, and in each lecture demonstrated a hundred plants, in the whole three thousand ; besides those which are very early, and very late, which he computed to amount to a thousand more. This garden is endowed by the king and the duke of Orleans, and possesses rents amounting to two thousand pounds ; out of which sum, five hundred pounds are paid annually to the physician who superintends it, and the remainder is expended in paying the botanic lecturer, and the gardeners, and in supplying them all with lodgings. M. Breman told me, that he had in the beginning of April finished sowing his couches, or hot beds, and that he had put into them two thousand species of seed.

From the mount in this garden, I had a full view of the palace, or country-seat of the Pere de la Chaise,^b

^b This is the person who enjoined on Lewis xiv. the revocation of the Edict of Nantes, as an act of devotion to expiate the scandal of his amours ! Bishop Burnet relates a story of some humour with which this Father was connected ;

the king's confessor. It is on the opposite side of the Seine, on the declivity of a high ridge of hills, finely

In the year 1685, he says, it was expected by the court of France that the king of England would declare himself a papist; and the Archbishop of Rheims went so far as to tell Bishop Burnet that Charles was as much theirs as the Duke of York, but that he had not so much conscience. And Lewis himself said either at a levee, or at table, that a great thing would shortly occur in England with respect to religion. The reason of which was this: A missionary from Siam who had lately returned to England, boasted of his having converted and baptized many thousands in that kingdom. He was well received at court, and Charles amused himself with hearing his adventures. Upon this he asked for a private audience, in which he vehemently pressed the king to return to the Catholic Church. The king took this very civilly, and returned, according to his manner, such answers as induced the priest to conclude that the thing was nearly done. Upon which he wrote to Pere la Chaise, informing him that they would soon have the news of the king's conversion. The Confessor carried the news to Lewis, who directed that the missionary should try to convert Lord Halifax. Lord Halifax put many questions to him, to which he made such simple answers, as afforded his lordship much scope for ridiculing conversions made by such men. Lord H. asked him how it was they had not converted the king of Siam, since he was so favourable to their religion; to which he replied, that that king had said that he could not forsake the religion of his fathers, unless he saw good grounds to justify the change; and that since the author of their religion had left with his followers a power of working miracles, he desired they would apply that power to himself. That he had a palsy both in his arm and leg, and if they could deliver him of that, he promised to change immediately. Upon which the missionary said that the bishop, who was at the head of the mission, was assez hardi, bold

open to the south, and on each side well planted with woods. A fit residence for a contemplative person.

The garden of the Palais Royal, considering that it is in the centre of the town, is very extensive; it has two or three basins, each fitted up with a jet d'eau, which, however, is out of order. Although there is nothing elegant in this garden, except the walks and parterres, it is always the resort of good company.

The garden of the Arsenal is much larger, and in better order; it affords a prospect of the fields, and lies open to the ramparts, and is much frequented for the beauty of its walks.

enough to undertake it. A day was fixed; the bishop with the priest and some others came to the king, who after some prayers told them, he felt some heat and motion in his arm, but that the palsy was more rooted in his thigh. So he desired the bishop to go on, and finish what he had so happily begun. The bishop thought he had ventured enough, and would engage no further, but told the king, that since their God had made one step towards him, he must make the next to God, and at least meet him half way. But the king was obstinate and would have the miracle finished before he would change. On the other hand the bishop stood his ground, and so the matter went no further. Upon which Lord Halifax said, they ought to have prayed the palsy into his arm again, as well as they prayed it out, and that if it had returned, that would perhaps have given him full conviction. This put the missionary into some confusion, and Lord Halifax repeated the story to the king and duke, with such an air of contempt that the latter was highly provoked by it. But the priest appeared at court no more.

Burnet, Hist. of his own Times, v. 2, 1036.

Many of the convents have large gardens, which are kept in good order, and are always open to the genteel part of the public. That of the Carthusians is very large and champêtre; and that of the Celestins is very beautiful and spacious. But the garden of St. Genevieve, which is ample, and kept in excellent order, is remarkable for the length and breadth of its terrace, which surpasses every thing of the kind in Paris. It is protected from the sun by a row of chestnut trees. On the south-side of this terrace are three or four square clumps of the same trees, which produce a surprisingly cool and agreeable effect in summer.

Among the private gardens which I saw at Paris, was that of D' Aumont, the green-house of which opened into the dining-room. The treillage, or arbour work, was decorated with gilding, and in the middle of it was a pavilion, in which was an antique statue of a Roman youth, in good preservation. The fashion of the toga on this statue was so evident, that it might alone serve to refute those, who contend that the Roman toga was a garment open in the front, like a cloak. The treillage consists of such a variety of ornament, that it resembles fillagree work. The green painting of these works, is not equally well executed in all places; few painters hit the exact colour; some making it too yellow, some more of a sea-green, and others of a sad and dirty hue. To succeed in this respect, the work should be primed with yellow, and then covered with *vert de montagne*, or *lapis armeniacus*, of which last article we have plenty in England. The great convenience and utility of

treillage in cities, besides its agreeableness to the eye, is, that it conceals such objects as are unsightly.

In this garden there were many well grown fig-trees in square boxes, and parterres well filled with flowers; yet there was only one sort in each, such as tulips, &c.

The garden of Puissant is neat, and at the lower end lies open to the Tuilleries. The arbour at the upper end, is very fine; it is seventy paces long, and eight wide, and has three pavilions all open at the top. The whole of it is formed of iron, painted green, and cost fifteen thousand livres. There were here in cases some plants not to be met with elsewhere. The walls were well covered with fruit trees; and the gardener, who was an artist by profession, had not yet pruned his peach-trees, assigning as a reason for this delay, that he had found by experience, that by postponing the pruning of these trees till they had blossomed, the fruit was much finer. The orangery was, for its size, the most beautiful room that I ever saw. It was paved with marble, and the walls were neatly wainscotted with oak, after the English manner. In the summer-time, when the fruit-trees were kept in the open air, this room was probably used as a refectory.

The treillage in the garden of Comartin was most admirable; it was in the form of a triumphal arch.^c

^c This infringement on the appropriation of triumphal arches is justly censured by Pope.

“ Turn arcs of triumph to a garden gate.”

This absurdity, he says, seems to have arisen from an in-

One half of it was a well filled aviary, with a fountain in it. In this garden were large iron vases, mounted on pedestals, and painted so as to resemble bronze.

Les Diguieres. This is the only house that I saw in Paris which was kept with much attention to neatness and cleanliness. In the garden there were several pieces of treillage; one at the upper end, which was very magnificent, cost ten thousand livres; another six thousand; a third, which was smaller, was composed entirely of iron foliage, painted green; the only one of the kind that I saw. There were also large vases of treillage raised on pedestals. The fountains in this garden, though small, were very curious, and were embellished with proper ornaments; which, when the fountains played, had a surprising effect. In the outer court were laurustinuses of a very large size in vases, and there were several of them in the natural earth in the garden, which were cut into the shape of pyramids.

A person of quality came to me in the garden, and with great civility conducted me to the apartments. In that of the duchess, which was entirely of her own contrivance, there was an air of state and agreeableness exceeding any thing that I had ever seen. One piece of ornamental furniture I particularly observed;

judicious imitation of what these builders might have heard at the entrance of the ancient gardens of Rome: but they do not consider, that these were public gardens, given to the people by some great man after a triumph; to which therefore, arcs of this kind were very suitable ornaments.

Moral Essays, Ep. 4, v. 30, and note.

this was a crystal candlestick, hanging from the centre of the ceiling in the bedchamber. It is reputed to be the finest in France, and cost twelve thousand crowns. The pieces were bought by the duchess singly, and the arrangement of them was entirely her own.

Before I left the garden, I saw in an obscure parterre, a tomb, which was erected to preserve the memory of a cat. Upon a square black marble pedestal was carved a black cat, couchant on a white marble cushion, which was fringed with gold, and had a gold tassel hanging at each corner. On one side of the pedestal was the following inscription in letters of gold:

Ci gist Menine, la plus aimable et la plus aimee de toutes les chattes^d.

On the other side also in letters of gold were these lines:

*Ci gist une chatte jolie,
Sa maitresse, qui n'aimoit rien,
L'aime jusques a la folie.
Pourquoi dire ! on le voit bien^e.*

^d Here lies Menine, of all cats the most lovely and the most beloved.

^e A charming cat here buried lies,
Lov'd by its mistress, ah too well!
That mistress who did all things prize.—
But words are weak her love to tell.
“ Ah Pierrot ! in thy vig'rous days,
By early death laid low ;
On thee no marble urn I raise,
No mould'ring pomp bestow.

This is not the first instance that I have met with of this kind of folly; something of the same sort I have seen in England; and much more occurs in history.^f If I am to be blamed for transcribing this epitaph, I acknowledge the censure to be just; but I never could have forgiven myself if I had copied the many fine inscriptions which I saw at Paris; although some of them are couched in most elegant, and truly Roman language, and others in pure court French. These, however, may be read in the Description of Paris.

De Longe. Here we had the good fortune to find the Marshal himself walking in his garden. He entertained the dean of Winchester and myself with

But near this brook I lay thy head,
 Where willows shade the ground;
 And crop the weeds that dare to spread,
 And smooth the turf around!
 Pierrot! be this the tomb I give,
 This melancholy lay!
 Haply these tender strains may live,
 When costliest piles decay.
 And when, my sorrowing period spent,
 The grave shall gape for me;
 Thy master's be a monument,
 Like this, dear Puss, to thee."

^fÆlian, in his various history, tells us that Polyarchus was so extremely prodigal, that he would bring forth the dead carcasses of dogs and cocks, if he had been fond of them when living, and invite all his friends and acquaintance to their burial, sparing no expence; he raised upon their graves large pillars, and inscribed them with epitaphs.

great civility. The garden was unfinished and the house itself only building. It is, however, one of the finest in Paris, and has the great advantage of a most free and extended prospect of the fields, and of Montmartre. At the end of the garden rises a terrace as high as the rampart.

One arrangement in this house, which was equally commodious and noble, was, that carriages drive between the two courts, through a stately hall, the roof of which rests upon pillars, and may set down on either side; and in the farthest court, which is only divided from the garden by high palisades of iron, they turn and receive the company again, so that no inconvenience is felt from the weather. Such a contrivance is much wanted in Paris, but still more in London. This hall, which is built upon arches, opens into the garden; and the staircase itself is so contrived, that an individual, in descending it, enjoys a full prospect of the garden and Montmartre. The marshal shewed us his own apartment, all the rest of the house being occupied by the workmen. In his bed-chamber was his little red damask field bed, which served him when he commanded upon the Rhine, and in which he sleeps now. He also shewed us his large sash windows, which were made from a model that he had received from England; the method of counterbalancing the sash being at that time unknown, or not in use in France. He conducted us into a suite of small rooms, furnished in the English manner, and which he locked after him. He would attend us to our carriage, and sent his page after us to invite us to dine with him before our departure.

Hotel Pelitier. The garden here was very neat, with a treillage at the end of it, in imitation of a triumphal arch. It was neither lofty nor well painted, yet it had beauties, and was finished in a manner different from any which I had seen before. In the two niches were placed large vases, or flower pots of iron, and behind each of them was a basin of water, with a jet d'eau, which was made to play for our amusement. With compliments of this kind the French are very fond of entertaining strangers.

The best treillage of wood intermixed with iron bars, is in the garden of M. Louvois, which is one of the neatest in Paris. The whole upper end of the garden is embellished with a noble treillage, after the manner of a triumphal arch. It cost a great sum of money. Within it are four statues, elevated on pedestals; they are antique, and produce a pleasing effect, although their workmanship is somewhat inferior. They represent a Diana, an Apollo, one of the early Roman empresses, &c. On one side of the treillage, is a large and well filled aviary. The walls of the green house are matted, and large pans of iron hang down in the midst of it, at equal distances, and opposite to each window. Lines run over pulleys to raise these pans to any height, or to lower them. This is a very useful contrivance for correcting the moisture of the air, which is caused by the exhalations of the plants. Hot beds puff up plants, yet a warm air above them, may in the winter prove equally serviceable to nourish and refresh them.

The last private garden which I saw was extremely

pretty. At its upper end was a noble treillage, with two large vases of iron painted of the colour of brass, and gilded. Here I saw an apple tree potted, as the fig and orange trees used to be; it was the white queenen, or calvil d'Este, the stem not exceeding the size of the thumb; it was full of fruit on the first of June. There were also many pots of the sedum pyramidale, a most elegant ornament, but nothing was so magnificent as the double red and white striped stocks. These they multiply with great care, and their pains are fully requited. Besides these, there was a great number of private gardens well worthy of being seen, but the season of the year was unfavourable.

CHAP. XI.

OF THE ROYAL PALACES AND GARDENS.

HITHERTO I have confined myself to the description of such objects as I saw in Paris. The country surrounding the capital is full of populous and neat towns; and there are many palaces of the king and princes of the blood, which are unequalled by any thing of the kind in England. Of these palaces there were four which I was enabled to see; viz. Versailles, St. Cloud, Marli and Meudon; of which I will venture to say something.—

These four royal palaces were all built, and entirely furnished in the present reign. The gardens belonging to each of them are as extensive as almost any county in England, but the site of them is hilly, and the soil barren. Two of these palaces, viz. Meudon, and St. Cloud, have the prospect of Paris below them; but the others have the view more distinctly, and perfectly. This district may be said to be le berceau de rois, the nursery of kings; for the principal branches of the royal family are lodged here, namely, the king himself; Monseigneur the Dauphin; and the three grandsons, who are the dukes of Burgundy,

Anjou and Berry ; also Monsieur, the king's brother ; his son the duke of Chartres ; and Mademoiselle his daughter.

St. Cloud is the nearest to the city of the four palaces ; the castle is very magnificent and most commodious ; the great saloon and the gallery are painted extremely well ; the gardens are of a vast extent, being from twelve to fifteen miles in circumference. The natural woods on the south-west side of the house, are cut into alleys of different sizes ; yet there is such great care taken to preserve the trees, that some are permitted to stand in the alleys, and even on the very steps of stone, which are formed to facilitate the descent, where the slopes are at all steep. In other parts of the gardens the alleys are for the most part treble, and well shaded, and range into vast lengths of several miles. Basins, and jettées d'eau occur every where ; but there is one cascade which is said to be the most beautiful, and the best supplied with water of any in France. This I several times saw play. In the centre of the large basins among the woods, I saw one jet d'eau, which threw up the stream of water ninety feet, and discharged it with such a force, that every now and then, sounds, like the explosion of powder from a pistol, were caused by the escape of air from the pipes that conveyed the water, while the atmosphere was made misty and cold for a considerable extent around. The water pipes are of iron ; they are cylindrical, and cut or cast into lengths of three feet, with a bore of from ten to twenty inches in diameter. Where the stream is to ramify, lead is used.

I was kindly invited to St. Cloud, by M. Arlot, who is physician to Madame. He sent his carriage for me to Paris, and treated me nobly. Before dinner he took me in his carriage, for this privilege is granted him, into all parts, and round the gardens, which were tastefully laid out in alleys and walks, and embellished with cypresses, pines, and firs, cut into pyramidal shapes, and with a profusion of water-works, in full play. The *gerbes d'eau* in particular were very grand; this is a contrivance to economise the water by connecting a great number of small pipes together, like a wheat-sheaf, which cast up their numerous and slender streams simultaneously, and produce the effect of a solid column of water.

To this already ample garden, Monsieur has made a new acquisition, by adding a mountainous plain, which overlooks all the surrounding country; this when it shall be modelled by that admirable contriver, M. le Nôtre, will undoubtedly make one of the most delightful places in the world.

The river Seine, and a vast plain bounded by Paris, are to be seen from the balustrade in the upper garden, and afford a most delightful prospect.

These vast *riding gardens* are unknown to us in England; and *se promener a cheval, ou en carosse*, are terms not translatable into English. Indeed we cannot afford to lose so much country as these prodigious gardens demand; in some parts of which I not only saw an abundance of hares and partridges, but, what I wondered at still more, five female deer feeding.

The orangery belonging to this garden is very spacious and magnificent; the paving is of white

marble. It was filled with vast trees in cases, which were much too ponderous to be conveyed in and out without the assistance of suitable machinery. There was, however, nothing in this place besides the orange trees, and some oleanders and laurustinuses. The noble painted gallery before spoken of, is continued upon a level with the orangery, which leads directly into an ascending walk of great length, and also fronts or flanks the flower-garden, where the trees are deposited during the summer months.

At the dinner I partook of an incomparable preserve, or moist sweetmeat, made of orange-flowers; and the lady of M. Arlot obliged me by communicating the manner of making it.

Although there were high and proper walls for fruit trees in many parts of this garden, yet was there nothing of that nature to be found; but only ordinary and infructiferous ever-greens were fastened to the treillage, with which most of the walls here are lined. In the garden are numerous arbours, pavilions, &c. formed of wood, and iron intermixed with it to give it strength; they are painted green and are overspread with honeysuckles, &c. One hundred and fifty workmen are constantly employed in these gardens to keep them in order, the expence attendant on which is estimated at forty thousand livres a year.

On another occasion I dined with the captain of the castle, who shewed me all the apartments at great leisure. At the termination of those which are occupied by Monsieur, is a handsome suit of closets, in one of which was a great variety of rock crystals, cups, and agates mounted upon small stands; the

sides of this room are decorated with large mirrors reaching from the ceiling to the floor ; the spaces intermediate to them, which were precisely of the same dimensions, being filled with Japan paintings highly varnished. The effect produced by these ornaments, and the relief which they mutually afforded, was very striking and agreeable. Another closet contained a great quantity of bijoux or toys, the most extraordinary of which, were the pagods, and other articles, which were brought by the Siamese ambassadors as presents to the king. There was also one very small statue of white marble, less than ten inches in height, which seemed to be a piece of exquisite workmanship, with the exception of one of the legs, which was a little injured, it was quite perfect. It cost twenty thousand crowns. The subject was a boy who had in the skirt of his tunic a litter of puppies, the mother of the puppies sitting at his feet, and looking up at him with an earnestness bordering upon anxiety.

At the dinner, I partook of the red-leg'd partridge, which breeds upon these hills. It is smaller than the gray, but far superior to it. Though it was the beginning of April, the wine was cooled with ice, of which I was not aware till I discovered it by its ill effects on my throat. On the following day my throat was worse, but soon grew well again.

There is no creature that takes such liberties with itself as man does, who daily swallows liquors of the most opposite degrees of temperature and quality. Other creatures are guided by instinct, but as for men, they act neither by that nor by reason, but wan-

der carelessly between both, and are therefore often caught to their own destruction.

Of Meudon I cannot say much, because I was neither within the house nor the park. Both are in an unfinished state, Monseigneur having but lately obtained the possession of them, and it will require some time to bring them to the perfection which is designed. Even the road which leads to it from Paris is as yet unpitched. The gardens are very extensive, and the situation of them is admirable. In the front of the palace is an esplanade, which is not unlike a vast bastion; from hence is afforded a full view of all the champaign, with Paris at the foot of it.

As to the palace of Versailles, which is situate some miles further within the mountainous country, not unlike Blackheath or Tunbridge, it is beyond all doubt the most magnificent in Europe.^a Those parts of this palace which were built thirty years ago, and

^a The Palace of Versailles has been pronounced the eighth wonder of the world. It was no sooner finished, than the following epigram, which has been highly and deservedly praised for its climax, was presented to the king, with a view to its being inscribed on the front of the building:

“Non orbis gentem, non urbem gens habet ullam.

Urbsve domum, dominum nec domus ulla parem.”

“The world no realm, no realm a city sees.

No city house, no house a lord like this.”

Of a similar character, and written to celebrate the rapidity of conquest of Lewis, in the year 1668, was the following epigram:

Una dies Lotharos, Burgundos hebdomas una,

Una domat Batavos luna,—quid annus erit?

were then much admired, are now disliked, but wherever it is objectionable the king designs to rebuild it.

The soil is ungrateful, being unsuitable to herbage, and the water is bad, but the king has fertilized the former, and brought water in great abundance. The road is newly made, and in some places passes through mountains, which were cut down forty feet in depth; the effect of which is two-fold, for thus the approach to the palace is rendered easy, and the palace itself is laid open to the view at the distance of a mile, while its gilded roof and tiles thus seen in prospect strike the eye with astonishment.

The esplanade towards the gardens and parterres is vastly large, and the noblest thing of the kind that can any where be seen. In the centre of it is a capacious basin of water, inclosed with white marble; on this wall is placed at suitable distances a great number of brazen vases and figures couchant, of excellent

If in *one day* he subjugates Lorraine,
And makes in *sev'n* Burgundia quit the plain,
In *thirty* Holland crouch to his career—
Say what the glories of a perfect year?

On the subject of those astonishing victories, it may be just observed, that a cotemporary writer* accounts for them by stating as a fact, that the Marquis de Garine, who was governor of the French Country for the king of Spain, was bribed by the Prince of Conde, to draw off his forces. An easy way, he observes, of procuring the title of conqueror, without incurring any risque for it; and as the bribe was *never paid*, a cheap one too.

* Mem. de M. Artaguan.

L. Logue, 1704.

workmanship, the production of the first artists. It would be endless to describe the furniture or decorations of these gardens, consisting of marble and brazen statues and vases, a multitude of fountains and wide canals resembling seas, which are in a strait line from the bottom of the gardens as far as the eye can reach. To sum up all in a few words, these gardens are distributed into alleys and walks, groves of trees, canals and fountains, and are every where complete with innumerable ancient and modern statues^b.

^b On the gardens of Versailles a judicious writer has remarked that though they were planned by men at that time in high repute, and executed at an infinite expence, they are a lasting monument of a taste the most vicious and depraved. Nature was deemed too vulgar to be imitated in the works of a magnificent monarch, and for that reason preference was given to things unnatural, on an erroneous supposition that they were supernatural. Another objection to these gardens, for they are sixteen in number, is that though they are all connected with the palace itself, yet there is no mutual connection between them; so that they appear not like parts of one whole, but rather like small gardens in contiguity. Their junction breeds confusion, and a better effect would be produced by their being at some distance from each other. The ornaments also are too profuse, they perplex the eye, and prevent the object from making an impression as a whole. This is the effect of the triumphal arches, Chinese temples, obelisks, statues, cascades, &c. which fatigue the sight in these gardens. The general want of good sense in the arrangement and decorations of these gardens is delicately, but with much truth reprehended by our great poet:

“ Something there is more needful than expence,
And something previous ev’n to taste—’tis sense:

The orangery, or winter conservatory, corresponds with the greatness of the rest of the palace. It is a stupendous half square of vaults underground, resembling the naves of so many churches united; it is formed of hewn stone, of exquisite workmanship, is well lighted, and fronts the south. It contains three thousand cases of evergreens, of which two thousand are orange-trees. Of these last several hundred are as large as they grow naturally, and some are said to be as old as the time of Francis the first. They were not to be taken into the air this year till the latter end of May, and indeed the oleanders, laurels, lentiscuses, and most of the other greens had greatly suffered. In the potagerie which makes a part of these gardens, and has its magnificence too, there are seven hundred cases of fig-trees, besides wall-fruit-trees; of the fig the French seem particularly fond.

On the 17th of May the waters were made to play for the amusements of the ambassador and his suite. The playing of the spouts of water is here diversified after a thousand fashions; the most celebrated of which are the Theatre des Eaux, and the Triumphal Arch. In the groves on the left the fables of Æsop are represented in so many pieces of water works,

A light, which in yourself you must perceive;

Jones and Le Nôtre have it not to give.

Without it, proud Versailles! thy glory falls,

And Nero's terraces desert their walls."—Pope, Ep. iv.

"A French lady on her returning from seeing Versailles, said that "*outré la passion, je n'ai jamais vu de chose plus triste;*" bating the amours that reign there, she never saw so stupid a thing.

which surprise the eye here and there in the winding alleys. This might have been called "in usum Delphini." It was very amusing to see the owl washed by all the birds; and the monkey hugging her young-one till it spouts out water with a full mouth and open throat.^c

In the middle of May my lord ambassador went to Marli, where the waters played for his diversion.

^c The same critic to whom I before referred,* asks whether the statues of wild beasts in these gardens vomiting water is in good taste? A jet d'eau, being purely artificial, may, without causing disgust, be tortured into a thousand shapes; but a representation of what exists in nature, admits not any unnatural circumstance. The statues therefore at Versailles must be condemned. A lifeless statue of an animal pouring out water, may be endured without much disgust; but here the lions and wolves are put in violent action, each has seized its prey, a deer or a lamb, and is in the act of devouring it. And yet instead of extended claws and open mouth, the whole, as by hocus-pocus, is converted into a different scene, the lion forgetting its prey, pours out water in abundance, the deer forgetting its danger does the same thing; an absurdity similar to that in the opera, where Alexander the Great, having mounted the wall of a besieged town, turns about and entertains his army with a song!

"The suff'ring eye inverted nature sees,
Trees cut to statues, statues thick as trees;
With here a fountain never to be play'd,
And there a summer-house that knows no shade;
Here Amphitrite sails through myrtle bow'rs;
There Gladiators fight and die in flow'rs.
Unwater'd see the drooping sea-horse mourn,
And swallows roost in Nilus dusty urn."

* Lord Kaim's Elem. of Criticism. v. 3, p. 308.

This is one of the pleasantest places I ever saw, nor do I believe it to be equalled in Europe. It is seated in the bosom, or upper end of a high valley, in the midst of, and surrounded by woody hills. The valley is inclosed at the upper end, and descends by gentle degrees, opening wider and wider, and affording the prospect of a vast level country with the Seine running through it.

The palace of Marli^c is a square built house raised

^c Marli was the favorite residence of Madame Maintenon, whose influence over Lewis, for five years before her marriage with that king, was very great, although the connection between them was, or was supposed to be virtuous. Pere de la Chaise, the king's confessor, perhaps thought otherwise, and advised a marriage, which was solemnized by Harlai, archbishop of Paris, in the year 1686, but never avowed, and she still preserved her own name. This event could not but increase her ascendancy over the king, though she was older than him, and had retained but little of her former beauty; and she is reported to have exercised it on one very important occasion, to the astonishment of all Europe.

In the year 1693 Lewis opened the campaign in Flanders with great pomp, for he went himself, and took with him the ladies of his court. William made great haste, and assembled his army much sooner than the French expected, and encamped at Park near Louvain. Lewis, however, resolved not to venture himself in any dangerous enterprize, but with his ladies returned to Marli. On this last occasion the following verses were written and paraphrased:

1.

La jeune Iris aux cheveux gris
 D soit à Theodate
 Retournons, mon cher, à Paris,
 Avant que l'on combatte.

✱

upon steps, and all sides surrounded by a terrace. Its four fronts are perfectly alike, and the door-ways which open into the garden are precisely the same. In the centre is an octagon hall running up dome-wise,

2.

Vous me donnés trop de souci,
Car Guillaume ne raille.
Helas ! que feriez-vous ici
Le jour d'une bataille ?

3.

Il est vrai que vous partirés
Sans Lauriers et sans Gloire,
Et que vous Embarasserés
Ceux qui font Vôte Histoire ;

4.

Mais vous devès laisser ces soins
A Despreaux et Corneille,
Vous ne les payeriés pas moins,
Quand vous feriés merveille.

5.

Vous punirez une autre-fois
Ces gens qui m'ont pillée.
Qu' elle honte qu' á Charleroy,
Ils m' eussent amenée.

6.

Quoy's que je sois aimée de vous
Et que je sois bien sage,
J'aurois passé parmy ces fous
Pour un Rebut de Page.

PARAPHRASE.

1.

In gray-hair'd Celia's wither'd arms,
As mighty Lewis lay,
She cried, if I have any charms,
My dearest let's away !

into which all the side-rooms, which are the state apartments, open. Above, are twelve lodging rooms with a narrow gallery leading to them. In the lower rooms, particularly in the octagon saloon, are tables of marble, or rather agate, for they may be compared

2.

For you, my love, is all my fear,
Hark ! how the drums do rattle ;
Alas, Sir ! what should you do here
In dreadful day of battle ?

3.

Let little Orange stay and fight,
For danger's his diversion ;
The wise will think you in the right,
Not to expose your person.

4.

Nor vex your thoughts how to repair
The ruins of your glory ;
You ought to leave so mean a care,
To those who pen your story.

5.

Are not Boileau and Corneille paid,
For panegyric writing ?
They know how heroes may be made,
Without the help of fighting.

6.

When foes too saucily approach,
'Tis best to leave them fairly ;
Put six good horses in your coach,
And carry me to Marli.

7.

Let Boufflers to secure your fame,
Go take some town, or buy it ;—
Whilst you, great Sir, at Nôtre dame,
Te Deum sing in quiet.

with the best specimens of this last precious stone, of extraordinary dimensions. They are amber-coloured, and veined like wood, the admirable effect of petrification. I neglected to inquire from whence these stones came, but I have seen large blocks of them at the dropping-well at Knaresborough in Yorkshire. --

In one of the rooms on the ground-floor, was a semicircular bar or rail gilded, which inclosed the upper end of the room, but admitted of being taken off. Within this bar several rows of porcelain or fine china were arranged on gilded shelves. At each corner within the bar, a small door opened into a room, from which the ambassador, who was attended by many of the French nobility and gentry, and his retinue, were plentifully served with coffee, tea, and chocolate.

The two side fronts of the house have in prospect large alleys cut through the woods. On each side of the valley, close under the woods, are ranged in a line, six square pavilions, or smaller houses, of the very same form and beauty as the palace itself. They stand at equal distances from each other, not exceeding five hundred paces; those on the right being for gentlemen, and those on the other side for ladies of quality, whom the king appoints weekly to wait upon him, and enjoy the pleasure of this retirement, as it may be well called, from court. In the front of these pavilions, and between them, are the finest alleys and walks imaginable, with fountains, and all the decorations of treillage and flowers. Such a display of no vulgar tulips, in beds a thousand paces long, every where disposed over this vast garden, and in their full

beauty, was a most surprising scene. I could not refrain from saying to the Duke de Villeroi, who was pleased to accompany me much in this walk, that surely all the gardens of France had contributed to furnish this profusion of flowers. This he took so kindly, that his father the Mareshal, afterwards detached himself to single me out, and very obligingly embraced me, and saluted me with a kiss, which he followed with very kind and familiar discourse.

The appearance of the cascade which falls from the brow of the hill, opposite to that front of the mansion which is nearest to it, was new and singular, and was the king's own invention, as was indeed all the garden. Viewed from the house, it appeared to be a broad river quietly gliding down the hill; but when I came near to it, I found it to be composed of two and fifty large basins, which were shallow and square, and disposed at right angles, the water not descending in the manner of a cascade, but gliding from one to another.

In the garden were many fountains, highly embellished, and having in them a variety of pipes through which the water played up into the air. There were some gerbes d'eau of a singular construction*, with a

* That great ingenuity was required to execute the superior sorts of water works, is as apparent, as that very great expence was incurred in forming them at first, and in afterwards keeping them in repair. The following short description of those which were in the garden of St. Germain, in the reign of Lewis xiii. shews that they surpassed in mechanism, the more numerous ones at Versailles, and the more powerful ones at Marli. At St. Germain's, instruments of music are set at work, which afford an harmony little in-

congeries of large pipes at least two feet in diameter, which when they played gave the appearance of a large column of water. In the bottom of the garden there was one jet d'eau, which, we were told, was capable of casting up the water to the height of one hundred and twenty feet. This, however, and many others were under repair.

To furnish all this water there is a most stupendous machine, the invention of two persons of Liege, which forces the water of the Seine to the top of the aqueduct, a height of five hundred and sixty feet. It is worked both by night and day by fourteen wheels, each wheel being thirty-two feet in diameter. At every stroke it propels five hundred inches of water, and the strokes are almost incessant. A contrivance

ferior to the finest concert; and what adds extremely to the pleasure, is the representation of musicians playing on them, and keeping exact time with their fingers on the keys of the organs, and the strings of the viols and lutes, as if they were living performers. All manner of mechanical trades are exercised by statues, which do every thing with proper action, and are eager at their employments as long as the water gives them motion; when that ceases, they all return to their primitive inactivity. A sea is seen with tritons riding on dolphins, and sounding their shell trumpets before Neptune, who is drawn in a chariot by four tortoises. The story of Perseus and Andromeda is acted to the life by mere statues. But the most ingenious piece of workmanship, is Orpheus playing on a viol; while the trees move, and the wild beasts dance around him. This last invention was so costly, that when a single string of the viol was broke, it cost the king thirteen hundred crowns to repair it.

Letters, &c. vol, 2. 203.

similar to this is used in the deep coal pits of lower Germany, so that the appearance of a great number of iron cylinders bare, and above ground, and climbing a vast mountain, has some resemblance to an inverted coal-mine.

The tree most in use here was the small-leaved hornbeam, which serves for arcades, berceaus, and also standards with globular heads, at the feet of which they plant cuttings of the same, a foot and a half long. In some places they plant whole areas with these cuttings, which when trimmed make very ornamental green hedges, twelve feet in breadth, and compensate in a dry and barren country for the want of grass-plots.

It is certainly very commendable in this king, who amuses himself with planting and pruning with his own hands, to make use of no trees but what the neighbouring woods supply. So that it is admirable to see whole alleys of pole-hedges of great height, and long rows of goodly standard globes, of only eighteen months growth. If this great king as he grows older, should take a fancy to place himself in a warmer climate, and he has in Languedoc as good a one as any under the sun, on the same principle as he houses his evergreens during winter, what wonders would not his passion for planting, fortified by his purse, effect there. This example, one would think, would serve to convince him of the necessity which there is for cherishing decaying nature in man, and of the superiority of an air naturally warm, to heat procured by cloathing, or by fuel.

In Languedoc the adjacent woods would afford

laurels and myrtles, instead of pole-hedges, the lentiscus and phillarea are in as great abundance; as hazel and thorn are with us. The jasmin also for arbours and treillage, the cistus and rosemary, and numberless other redolent shrubs for the vases and pots, grow in the fields spontaneously. There the tall cypresses grow of themselves to the height of sixty and even a hundred feet, looking like so many towers; and also tonsil in profusion for the most beautiful pole-hedges imaginable. The very fields are by nature excellent kitchen gardens and parterres. The vineyards are as productive as orchards, and all the fruits that are so tender with us, thrive there as standards, namely, figs, grapes, apricots, peaches, nectarines, jujubes, &c. The large and delicious cherries, and apples and pears are in far greater perfection in that happy climate, than with us, or in any other part of France.

What would it be for so powerful a monarch to make a road from Marli to Montpelier, or to Pescenas, which is seated in the bosom of a well watered valley, and inclosed with perfumed hills. The distance is less by half than that between Lahor and Agria, two seats which were thus united by the Mogul. This would eternise his name more than any palace which he has built, and conduce to render his decline of life healthy. The gardens of the Hesperides, and the labyrinths of Crete, which are so famous in history, would be nothing when compared with such wonderful performances as his abilities and happy genius are capable of. For besides the natural productions of the country, the climate is adapted with very little

assistance to support whatever plants the Indies afford. Whereas we, at this end of the world, drudge in vain, and force a pleasure which is dead and gone before we can well enjoy it. We have indeed a kind of show of summer delights, but all at once we again plunge into a long and tedious winter. Yet we are attached to the places which gave us birth, or to which we have been accustomed, and man is indeed as much an animal as any quadruped, most of his actions being resolvable into instinct, notwithstanding the principles which custom and education have superinduced.

It is difficult to tire the sight with pleasant objects, but yet after walking two or three hours in this very beautiful and spacious garden, I was forced to make a halt behind the company, and was glad to revisit the gilt bureau at the palace, for the sake of refreshment. Here I found some of the king's officers, who had made several campaigns in Flanders, waiting, and some other gentlemen of the household. I now felt a much greater inclination for a glass of cool burgundy, than the insignificant Indian liquors, tea, &c. although I know it was contrary to the majesty of the place; yet nothing was denied to me a stranger.

Here, being alone, we fell into conversation concerning the English and their sovereign. They willingly allowed the nation to be truly brave in war, and they now found them to be in peace as courteous and well bred as brave; no nation, they said, had given the French king and his court the satisfaction which the English had done, and they found a great difference in the deportment of other nations and of them, they being curious and inquisitive after all good

things, not staring and carelessly running about and tossing up their heads, despising what they saw^f, but having a true relish of every good thing, and making a proper judgment of what they saw that was commendable. For these reasons, they said, the king had felt pleasure in having every thing shewn them. These commendations of the nation they concluded with a high encomium on king William.

As for their own king, it may be easily imagined that they were full of his praise; they said that his retirement to Marli was chiefly on account of his health; that he left Versailles every Tuesday-night, and came

^f This may refer to the conduct of "the Doge of Venice who with some of the senators were sent to Versailles to ask pardon of the king because they had presumed to resist his invasion. I happened to be at Paris when the Doge was there. One saying of his was much repeated. When all the glory of Versailles was set open to him, and the flatterers of the crown were admiring every thing, he seemed to look at them with the coldness that became a person who was at the head of a free commonwealth. And when he was asked if the things he saw were not very extraordinary, he said, the most extraordinary thing that he saw was, that he saw himself there!"—Burnet's Hist. of his own Times, v. 2, p. 1022.

There is however, a severe saying of the poet Prior on record, which serves to shew that even the English have not been uniformly so complaisant as to seem pleased with all that they saw: Prior's attention was called to some magnificent paintings in one of the king of France's palaces, the subject of which was the victories of that king. Being asked if they were not admirable, he replied that paintings of the king his master's victories were to be seen every where *except in his own palaces!*

to Marli with a select company of lords and ladies ; that he did not return to Versailles till the following Saturday, and sometimes stayed at Marli twelve or fourteen days, so that he spent half his time here in repose. That he was the most affable prince in the world, never out of humor, of a free and open conversation when the subject was agreeable to him ; easy of access, and never sending any one away discontented ; the most bountiful master in the world, of which there were numberless instances ; that there was no merit of any kind, which he did not readily and cheerfully reward, always, especially of late years preferring the virtuous, but that, on the other hand, he never spared the rebellious and obstinate ; that the government of his people could not be carried on, nor the taxes necessary for its support be raised, with less strictness and severity than he employed ; that he took no delight in blood or persecution, but that the art of government had different rules, according to the climate where, and to the nature and disposition of the people upon whom it was to be put in practice.

His great wisdom appeared in nothing more than in conducting himself amidst his troops, his converts, his court and numerous family, on all occasions in a manner becoming the dignity of the throne ; and in the greatness of his mind, and the splendor and magnificence of his buildings. This was the substance of the discourse with which these gentlemen were pleased to entertain us.

At my return to Paris, I was shewn the pipinerie, or royal nursery of plants in the Fauxbourg St. Honoire, by M. Morley, who is the master of it, and

one of the ushers of the king's bed-chamber. Like the rest of the French nation, M. Morley was very civil and obliging to me; he shewed me a written almanac of flowering plants for a whole year, which he said was an original; this it might indeed be in French, but we have almanacs for fruit and flowers for every month in the year, and have had for more than thirty years, thanks to Mr. Evelyn.^e This ground, inclosed

^e The title of this singularly useful publication, the design of which seems to have originated with Mr. Evelyn, is as follows :

Kalendarium Hortense, or the Gardener's Almanac, directing what he is to do monthly throughout the year, and what fruits and flowers are in their prime.

By John Evelyn, Esq. F. R. S.

This work, which is neither mentioned in the *Biographia Britannica*, nor by Haller in his *Bibliotheca Botanica*, went through the tenth edition in 1706, so that according to Dr. Lister's observation the first must have been published A. D. 1678, or sooner. The plan was so perfect in its original design, as to have been but little improved subsequently, and still continues to be adopted in all the modern directories of horticulture.

Mr. Evelyn was both by precept and example a great promoter of the useful arts in England. He was born in the year 1620. At the commencement of the rebellion he went with the king's permission abroad, and returned in the year 1651 to Sage's Court, near Deptford, where he passed a long life in literary and philosophical pursuits. He published several works of great utility, and his name will always be ranked among the benefactors of the country. He had the singular felicity to receive marks of favour and confidence from three successive monarchs of characters totally different, and lived in great tranquility in times the most turbulent and distracted, to which the naturally peaceful character of his mind con-

with high walls is extremely large, as it ought to be for the supply of the king's gardens; several acres were planted with pines, cypresses, &c. and there were vast beds of bulbous roots and the like. I found but little difficulty in crediting his assertion, that in the space of four years he had sent to Marli, eighteen millions of tulips and other bulbous flowers. He also told me that in furnishing the Trianon, (a peculiar house of pleasure) with its parterres, at the extremity of the gardens of Versailles, with flower-pots every fourteen days during the season, required not less than thirty-two pots from this nursery.

In this nursery are several houses to receive the tender ever-greens during the winter; among others there is a very large one, which may be called the Infirmary of sick orange-trees; these come by sea from Genoa, and are here deposited. At this time there were three hundred of them in cases which the people were taking into the air. They were as large as a man's thigh, but after being cherished ten, and even seventeen years, were still unfit to be removed to the king's gardens, and they were often obliged to prune the tops and the roots of the trees to promote their recovery.

tributed in no small degree. On one remarkable occasion his serenity was disturbed. His great delight was in his garden, which he kept in the greatest order and perfection. When the Czar Peter was at Deptford studying naval architecture, he was accommodated with Mr. Evelyn's house, and knowing how much pride Mr. Evelyn took in his impenetrable holly hedges, this rude monarch indulged himself in being wheeled through it in a barrow backwards and forwards, from pure wantonness, and the love of mischief.

After all, it must be acknowledged, that this magnificence, and the number of these palaces and gardens, are to be ranked among the most commendable and the best effects of an arbitrary government. If, during the continuance of peace, it were not for these expences, to what vast amount would not the wealth of the king swell, to what wretched extreme would not the poverty of the people descend? It is stated as a fact, that in every three years, and some say much oftener, the king has all the wealth of the nation in his coffers.^h

^h Among the exactions which were made by the king of France on his subjects, that which related to the monopoly of salt, was the most arbitrary and exceptionable. The king allows no one to manufacture salt but those whom he appoints, he also empowers officers to sell it, and every person is obliged to take at a stated price, the quantity imposed on him. The revenue arising from this source amounts to three millions of crowns yearly, one half of which is supposed to be wasted in the collection; so that out of three millions, which are thus extorted from the people, not more than one and a half find its way to the coffers of the king. Another mode of increasing the revenue, was by farming or letting particular imposts, for the purpose of raising supplies of ready money. These harsh measures reflected great discredit on the government, made the king very unpopular, and subjected him to lampoons and pasquinades. In the year 1694 *water* was taxed, on which occasion the following verses were written.

“ Lewis ambitious views supports,
By selling every element,
For earth and fire a price extorts,
Ev’n water now must pay him rent.
And, e’er the bloody sword he’ll sheathe,
He’ll tax the very air we breathe.”

So that there is a necessity that he should have extravagant and inconceivable ways of expending it, that it may have its due circulation, and find its way back to his subjects again. But when this vast wealth and power are turned to the disturbance and destruction of mankind, it is terrible, and yet has its uses too ; we and all Europe have been taught by the industry of this great king, important improvements in the art of war, so that for the last twelve years, Europe has been an overmatch for the Turks, and we, by the continuation of the war, for France itself. The forty millions sterling, which the late war has already, or will cost England before all the charges of it are paid, were well bestowed, if it had produced no other end, than to teach us the full use and practice of war, and to place us, in that respect, on a footing with our neighbours.

It was observed of the Romans by Polybius, that when they met an enemy better armed than themselves, they adopted the improvement. This docility gained them the empire of the world. On the other hand, the modern eastern tyrants have rejected improvement, and must consequently submit to the more refined valour of Europe.

The effects of arbitrary government therefore, both in peace and war, are stupendous. The Roman emperors far surpassed the commonwealth, in the magnificence of their public and private buildings, because they were absolute lords of the people. Augustus who found the houses and the walls of Rome of brick, left them of marble. Nero burnt and re-built Rome, and erected for himself a palace almost as large as a city.

Vespasian and Titus built amphitheatres and baths, which far excelled whatever there is of that kind now on the face of the earth. In the amphitheatre of the former, one hundred and twenty thousand persons might see and hear, and be seated, with more convenience than in any modern stage. Adrian, who visited most parts of the world for the purpose of acquiring the knowledge of civil architecture, left charming specimens of the exact taste which he had obtained in his palace and gardens. Trajan, who inscribed his name on every wall which he either built or repaired, raised the pillar, and threw over the Danube the bridge, which are stupendous memorials of his vast expences. The Egyptian kings erected pyramids and obelisks, which continue to be the wonder of the world. The emperors of China and Japan, have in their immense buildings far exceeded the Europeans. The wall¹ of China and the bridges there, were wonderful undertakings.

¹ The stone wall which divides the northern parts of China from Tartary, is reckoned by some twelve, by others nine hundred miles long, running over rocks and hills, through marshes and deserts, and making way for rivers by mighty arches. It is forty-five feet high, and twenty thick at its bottom, and is fortified at short distances with towers. It was built above two thousand years ago, but with such admirable workmanship that it is still entire.

The palace of the Emperor is three miles in circumference, it consists of three courts one within the other; the innermost, in which the Emperor lives, is four hundred paces square. The other two are filled with his domestics, officers, and guards, to the number of sixteen thousand persons. Without these courts are large and delicious gardens, many artificial rocks and hills, streams of rivers drawn into

Of the effects of this absolute dominion we have examples in the American empires of Mexico and Peru. In the last of these two countries, mere nature, without art, tools, or science, achieved apparent impossibilities. The Cusco fortress was a masterpiece, where stones, which no engine of ours would raise or even support, were laid upon stones, nor could any tools better polish them or set them together. Nay, the country itself, which is nearly as large as all Europe, was converted into a garden, and better cultivated than that of Versailles; and machinery was invented, that conveyed water through a country which knows no rain for several thousand miles. This is the only arbitrary government that I ever read of, whose sole object was the advancement of the public good^k; one very remarkable instance of

canals faced with square stone, and the whole achieved with such admirable invention, cost and skill, that nothing ancient or modern seems to come near it. The whole is served with such magnificence, order and splendor, that the audience of a foreign ambassador at Peking, seems as great and noble a sight as a Roman triumph.

Sir W. Temple Miscel. part 2. p. 242.

The author of the account of Lord Macartney's Embassy to China, corrects the above statement in one respect, viz. that the wall of China is fifteen hundred miles in length, and that many parts of it have fallen to decay.

Chap. xiii. p. 338.

^k It is certain that no government ever gave greater testimonies of an excellent institution than this, especially in the greatness and magnificence of all public works, such as temples, palaces, highways, bridges, and in all provisions necessary to the ease, safety, and utility of human life; so that

which was, that in different parts of the public roads, houses for supplying food and raiment gratuitously, were kept open by the government, and the whole empire was made an useful and intelligible mass. As to the Turks, the Persians, and the Mogul, the whole empire of these is intended solely for the pleasure of one man, and here even tyranny itself is foully abused.

Notwithstanding these advantages resulting from arbitrary governments, I should be sorry to see any of them exemplified in England. In our happy island, we see such palaces and gardens as are only calculated to promote the health and comfort of man, and what is wanted in magnificence, is compensated by neatness. Gravel walks and rollers are unknown in Paris and in its neighbourhood. Even the gardens of the Tuilleries are shut up during rain, and for many days after rain has fallen, the walks in it are quite dirty. The grass-plots, or, as they term them, bowling-greens, are as ill kept as the walks, the method of keeping them in what they call order, being to

the constitutions of Mango Copac, have been preferred to those of Solon, Lycurgus, or Numa. As testimonies of their grandeur, says Sir William Temple, I will mention only two of their highways. One of these, which was five hundred leagues in length, was plained and levelled through mountains, rocks and valleys, so that a carriage might drive through without difficulty. Another, very long and large, was paved with cut or squared stone, fenced on each side with low walls, and set with trees, whose branches afforded shade, and their fruits food, to all that passed.

Misc. v. 1, p. 264-258.

clip the herbage and flatten it by beating, as they do their walks. This reminds me of what I saw in the garden of the Prince of Conde at Paris; in the middle of it, and round one of the fountains, was a circular grass-plot about four feet broad; to keep down the herbage and make it fine, the gardener had tethered two black lambs and two white kids, at equal distances, that they might feed on it. Whatever the effect was on the herbage, the appearance was pretty enough, and the little animals were certainly as ornamental as the grass.

All the paintings and the prints of the king which have been executed of late years, represent him as much older than he appears to be; for his face is plump and well coloured, he seems healthy, and feeds well. This is certainly an injury to the king, and if it be done out of complaisance to the Dauphin, it is certainly the meanest compliment that I have known to be paid by the French to their sovereign, and in direct opposition to the sentiments universally expressed. Augustus, who was the first absolute master of the Romans, as this king¹ is of the French, was compli-

¹ Lewis le Grand is said to have been in several respects a second Augustus. They were both, indeed, examples of the vanity and the weakness of the greatest human grandeur. Lewis strongly resembled Augustus in his family misfortunes, at that melancholy time especially, when so many funeral cars closely followed each other along the avenue to St. Denis, bearing the beloved Duke of Burgundy, and many other branches of the royal family.

Wilcox, *Roman Convers.* v. 2, p. 303.

Others, who were less disposed to view the character of

mented in a far superior way by that people. Their desire was

De nostris annis tibi Jupiter augeat annos :

this king with candour, compared him to the monster Tiberius :

“ Less politic, but more mysterious,
Our Lewis has reviv'd Tiberius ;
And still in galling chains to train us,
Vile Louvois imitates Sejanus.”

The great misfortune of Lewis, seems to have been that he was constantly surrounded with sycophants, who surfeited him with their adulation—his person, his valour, his wisdom, his taste, his renown were the perpetual themes of their discourse. All classes of society united to dazzle his eyes, and to exalt him above all measure in his own estimation. Flattery assailed him in every way, picture and statue, allegory and emblem, verse and prose. The avowed object of all was to make him think that no such king had ever existed. To illustrate this by one instance. The sun, which is the glory of the universe, was the emblem of Lewis upon all occasions. On one, to denote the secrecy of his counsels and the consequences of them, the sun was described behind a cloud, and below were these words—*Tegiturque, parat dum fulmina.*—hidden, while he forms his thunders. The peace of Nimeguen was “*solis opus,*” the work of Lewis. In the year 1664 he is represented in an overgrown chariot, intended for that of the sun, surrounded with men and women representing the four ages of the world, the seasons, the celestial signs, the hours, &c.

————— *Quid apertius ? et tamen illi*
Surgebant cristæ : nihil est quod credere de se
Non possit, cum laudatur Dis æqua potestas.

Juv. iv, 69.

How fulsome this, how gross ! yet this takes well,
And the vain prince with empty pride doth swell,

That Jupiter would apply a portion of their existence to prolong his. Whether it be for this or some other reason, the king does not like Versailles so well as he did; it is said that he thinks the air less salubrious, and on that account passes most of his time at Marli, Meudon, the Trianon, or Fontainebleau. It is surprising that no one puts him in mind of that paradise of France, Languedoc, which he might reach with ease in four days. This conversation I had at table with one of the introducteurs to the ambassador at Versailles, but he could not endure the thoughts of it; as it is against the interest of individuals dependent on settled courts to remove, how beneficial soever it might be to the health of the prince. I remember but one instance, which was that of the great Mogul Aurengzebe, who in his middle age fell desperately ill, and continued to languish at Lahor for a long time. At length, being advised to change the air, he made a progress of a thousand miles to Cassimir, the climate of which is mild and temperate; there he recovered his health, and lived to be almost an hundred years old^m.

Nothing so monstrous, can be said or feign'd,
 But with belief and joy is entertain'd,
 When to his face the worthless wretch is prais'd,
 Whom vile court flatt'ry to a God has rais'd.—Duke.

^m Sir W. Temple was informed by "Don Francisco de Melo, the Portuguese ambassador to England, that it was frequent in his country for men spent with age, or other decays, so that they could not hope for above a year or two of life, to ship themselves away in a Brazil fleet, and, after their arrival, to go on a great length, sometimes of twenty or

The king now seldom or never plays, but contents himself with being a looker on. At one time he played much, and lost great sums of money. A Monsieur S. once cheated him of nearly a million of livres at Basset, by putting false cards on him, but he was imprisoned for several years, and then banished.

Before I quit the subject of the gardens of this country, I will mention a few particulars that are new to me. In the kitchen gardens of and near to Paris, the apricot tree is very generally cultivated as a standard, and it both blossoms and bears well, but is kept low. Of the fruit they make a conserve which is preferable to any moist sweetmeat. The method is, to cut the fruit in slices, omitting the stone; whereas with us the stone is preserved entire in the flesh, which causes fermentation, and spoils the preserve. The stones are employed to make liqueurs by infusing or distilling them.

From Languedoc I procured about fifty plants of a præcox vine, which I presented in the name of the ambassador, to the king of England, through the gardener Mr. London. The grape is white, its skin very thin, and juice quite transparent. At Montpellier, where it is called *Des Unies*, it is usually ripe early in

thirty years or more, the effect of that vigour which resulted from their removal. Whether such an effect might grow from the air, or the fruits of that climate, or by approaching nearer the sun, which is the fountain of life and heat, when their natural heat was so far decayed; or whether the piecing out an old man's life were worth the pains, I cannot tell —perhaps the play is not worth the candle."

On Health and long Life

July. I was informed by Dr. Tournefort that there are præcox vines in the physic-garden at Paris, but whether of the same or a different kind from the unies I know not.

The general way of cultivating the fig-tree in France is by planting it in pots or cases ; but there is another way, which is much practised, and that is to tie them up in long straw from top to bottom ; for which purpose they are set at a little distance from the wall. This method is also applied to such trees as stand in the parterres, which are not uncovered till the middle of May. The exotic trees in which the French take most delight, are the maronier, or horse-chesnut, and the acacia rovinci. The fruit of the former grows without cultivation, and for this reason the trees are innumerable, and are employed to shade the courts and garden-walks. The acacia is very common, and makes pretty alleys ; it is usual to lop and turn them into pollards ; they are, however, very late in putting forth their foliage.

In May, when I took leave of M. Vaillant, I found him in his flower-garden ; he shewed me a bed of ranunculuses in full flower, which he had received from Constantinople only two years before. They were very beautiful and rare, such at least, as I had never seen, viz. pure white, white and green, white striped with carnation, pure carnation or rose-colour, striped carnation, &c. Of these he had sold some at a pistole each ; in a year or two he expected to have a larger stock, and be enabled to sell them cheaper. I also noticed the iron cradles or hoops over his beds ; these were removeable, and might be made higher or lower

according to the plants, &c. which were to be covered. This invention was, I thought, far superior to mere coverings of wood, and might, with canvas or mats well serve for a sort of portable green house, for the less tender plants.

Le Febre had in his flower garden some ranunculuses which came from M. Vaillant. He had a large collection of tulips in their prime. Of the panachee, or striped ones, there was a great variety. He said that he expected striped tulips from such as were of one colour. These, if they should be striped in all the six leaves, would probably return in the following year to their former state; but if they *laboured*, or did not finish the stripings of all the six leaves the first year, there were then hopes that they would continue striped.

Although I had no inclination to descend into the stone-pits, which are well-fashion, the stones being wound up, yet I went to Vanre, which is about three miles from Paris, where the quarries are open on the side of the hill; here I observed that there were two or three layers of stone, each layer from two to three feet in thickness, and that the stones were composed of shells, or *stones resembling shells*. Among these shell-stones the most remarkable for size, was a smooth and long buccinum, or sea-snail, tapering with very many spines; I measured one, whose first spine was eight inches in diameter; its full length could not be ascertained, yet if it were to be judged of by its proportions, compared with those which lay flat, and the length of which we were able to determine, it must have been at least a foot long. In our

seas there is no buccinum so large by three fourths. There were many others of this kind, and also some large turbinated stones, resembling some of the West India music-shells, of which genus the European seas are deficient. These layers of stone, mixed with shell-figured bodies, are at certain distances in the rock, other rocks void of shells being interposed.

Fanciful men may think of these things as they will sure I am, that until the history of nature, and more particularly of fossils and minerals is more clearly investigated, and more accurately distinguished, all reasoning will be inconclusive. It may be remarked that where men are most in the dark, as they are upon this subject, there presumption reigns most; it is not enough for the ignorant merely to dissent, they must insult those with whom they disagree. This observation may be extended to mineral waters; on this subject how many *scribblers* have there been, with no knowledge of fossils whatever.

I know not whether it be worth remarking, but it may serve to shew the taste of the French, that in some country towns near Paris, I saw the battlements of the church, surrounded with black cloth two feet in depth like a girdle; on this cloth was printed at certain distances, the arms of the lord of the manor who had lately died.

CHAP. XII.

OF THE AIR OF PARIS; THE PREVALENT DISEASES,
AND THE STATE OF PHYSIC IN THAT CITY.

I SHALL conclude what I have yet to say, with some remarks on the air of Paris, and the state of health and physic there.

The air of Paris is drier than that of London, notwithstanding that the greatest part of this city is built on a dirty and miry flat, as is proved not only by the banks of the Seine, but by the ancient name Lutetia. Some of the French, however, are unwilling to derive Lutetia from the Latin lutum, but prefer the Greek tolon, tolousa, which words also signify black dirt; yet there are in France several other towns, once more considerable than Paris was, of that very name. We have in our philosophical transactions a conclusive experiment of the difference of the air of England and France, registers having been kept in both places; from which it appears that twice the quantity falls in England. It is owing to this, that our fields are so much greener, and it was a pleasing surprise to me at my return, to see, as I sailed up the Thames, the green fields on every side. For this, however, we pay dearly in agues, coughs and rheu-

matisms. The winter, which we passed in Paris, was very rude and fierce, as was ever known in the memory of man, and the cold winds were very piercing. So much so, that the common people walked in the streets in muffs, and multitudes had little brass kettles of small coal kindled hanging from their arms. And yet scarcely any one is heard to cough. During the six months that I resided at Paris, I only once saw a fog there, although a very broad river runs through the centre of it; nor were there any very boisterous winds. This however may have been accidental and peculiar to that year. By the twentieth of February, although the nights were cold, and the white-frosts in the morning considerable, we were very sensible that the sun at noon had a much stronger force and heat than it has with us at that season of the year. Another proof of the driness of the air at Paris was in the amendment of health; they whose respiration was less free, who coughed and expectorated much, quickly recovered; and it was a proof that the insensible perspiration was copious, that the kidneys had but little to do, notwithstanding our pretty free use of champaigne and burgundy. A still further sign of the superior driness and purity of the air of Paris, is that the palisades all over the city are for the most part entire, and the least injured by rust of any that I ever saw; whereas ours in London are in a few years rusty all over and miserably decayed.

At our first arrival at Paris, we were sufficiently alarmed at the reported unwholesomeness of the river water, and cautioned against drinking it; yet it was impossible to escape from the ill effects of it, for

within a month two thirds of the family were affected with diarrhæa, and some with dysentery, and were much indisposed. The French themselves, who come from remote parts of the country, suffer as much as foreigners. We were told that the griping quality of this water would be prevented by boiling; but that is a mistake, for we know that mineral waters have a greater effect when boiled, and that the purgative quality of the Seine must depend on a mineral impregnation.

The well waters of Paris are worse than those of the river, because they are more charged with mineral ingredients. But our security was in the use of the water brought from the Maison des Eaux, where the aqueduct of Arcueil empties itself to supply the great palaces of the city, and the fountains of it.

The dysentery being one of the most prevailing diseases in Paris, is said to be cured by the celebrated drug ipecacuanha, with as much certainty and as speedily as the ague is by the Jesuit's powder. In this testimonial of its virtues most of the physicians and apothecaries are agreed. They administer it in substance in the dose of from ten to forty grains, which last is the largest quantity that can be given at once. It generally excites sickness, and sometimes evacuates the bowels, but both gently. It is sold in France at from twenty to fifty crowns the pound, and is divided according to its goodness into four sorts. They certainly have great need of this remedy at Paris for the poorer sort of people, who from their meagre diet of herbs and the Seine water are very subject to the dysentery; but I made no use of it for any one of the em-

bassy, but cured them all as soon, and as well, with our usual remedies.

Another popular disease here is the stone, and there are men who are well practised in cutting for it. There are also two hospitals, viz. la Charité and the Hotel-Dieu, where great numbers are operated on annually. In both these there are wired chests full of calculi, which were extracted from human bodies. In the chest of la Charité is one, which for its magnitude exceeds all belief; it was taken from a monk, and is as large as a child's head. He died under the operation. Of this stone it is only the model which is kept in the chest, and on it is inscribed: "Figure et grosseur de la pierre, pesant 51 ounces, qui font trois livres, trois ounces, qui a été tirée dans cet hospital au mois de Juin, 1690, and que l'on conserve dans le convent de la Charité^a.

But that which I shall chiefly dwell upon is the *new way* practised by a monk named Frere Jaques^b.

^a That is "the shape and size of a stone weighing fifty-one ounces, or three pounds three ounces, which was extracted in this hospital, in the month of June, 1690, and which is preserved in the Convent of la Charité."

^b A larger and more interesting account of this man's rise and progress is given by M. Dionis, a very eminent surgeon and cotemporary, from which I have selected a few particulars. In 1697, arrived at Paris a sort of monk, in the dress of a Recolet, with this difference only, that he wore shoes, and had a hat instead of a cowl. He assumed the name of Brother James, and appeared plain and ingenious; he lived on pottage and bread only. He had no money, and never asked for more than a few sols to pay for the repairs of his instruments and his shoes. He belonged to no religious

On the 20th of April he operated upon ten persons in the Hotel-Dieu, in less than an hour. On the third day after the operation, all except one were hearty and without pain. I saw him operate a second time

order. He made himself known to M. Mareschal, the lithotomist of la Charité, produced the certificates which he had brought from Burgundy, and desired that he might be allowed to operate, saying that he came to teach the surgeons a new way of operating. They permitted him to exhibit his method on a dead body, which he did, but they found fault with it. He therefore went to Fontainebleau, where the court was, and applied to the court physicians, M. Duchesne, Fagon, and Bourdelot, who saw him operate successfully. All Paris resounded with his praises, and he obtained the authority of the Magistrates, that, in the approaching spring, which is the season for operating at la Charité and Hotel-Dieu, he should be allowed to operate. He did so in fifty different instances; and though a greater number died than recovered, yet the deaths were suspected to be caused by poison given by the regular surgeons. Such, however, was the desire to see him operate, that there was not a physician or surgeon who did not endeavour to get admittance; two hundred persons were at one time present, and guards were necessary to keep out the crowd. His reputation, however, rapidly declined, to which the death of the Marshal de l'Orge, the very day after he was operated on, greatly contributed; so that even M. Fagon, one of his earliest patrons, preferred being operated on by Maréchal. The great cause of his failure was the rashness, with which he made his incision, and the roughness with which he extracted the stone. To the dressing of the wound after the operation he paid no attention, and when some one remonstrated with him on this account, his reply was, "I have drawn out the stone,—God will cure the patient."

See Dionis Chir. Oper. p. 130,

in the Hotel-Dieu. On this occasion, he performed the operation with great dexterity, on nine patients in three quarters of an hour. He seemed to venture at all cases, and put me, and a stouter Englishman than myself, into some disorder, at the apparent cruelty of the practice. I afterwards saw the patients in their beds, and found them more amazed than in pain.

He also cut his way in the other hospital, la Charité, operating on eleven patients at two different times, and with the same rapidity.

Here M. Marechal, the most expert lithotomist in France, harangued the Governors against him. They coldly answered that they would be determined, as to the superiority of either method, by the event.

Of those who were cut in la Charité, one died; and on examining the body, it was found that the bladder was wounded in four or five places; that the psoas muscle was sadly mangled, and the vesiculæ seminales on the left side divided.

Frere Jacques operates both by the grand and little apparatus; in both he boldly thrusts a broad lancet or stiletto into the middle of the muscle of the thigh near the anus, till he joins the catheter or staff: then he widens the incision of the bladder in proportion to the size of the stone, with a silver oval hoop; if that will not do, he thrusts in his four fingers, and tears it wider; then with the duck's bill he draws out the stone.

Atque hac ratione fæminis calculi omnium facilimè exciduntur; nempè scalpello intra vaginam uteri in vesicam addacto.

Whatever objections there may be to the coarse

and savage manner in which this man operated, there is no doubt but that if the method were to be well executed by a skilful hand, it might prove of great use to mankind.

This way of cutting for the stone puts me in mind of what I formerly published in the *Philosophical Transactions*, on cutting above the os pubis into the fund of the bladder. And also of that experiment of cutting for the stone in an alderman of Doncaster in the gluteus major. It was twice cut in the same place, and survived both operations. The first stone, which I saw, was very large and in some measure transparent, crystal like. An account of this experiment was printed fourteen years ago in *Dr. Willies Scarborough Spa*, and was a fair hint for this new method.

Since my return to London, I received a letter from the gentleman who accompanied me to see *Frere Jaques* operate, in which he gave me an account of the career of that man after I left Paris; the following is an extract from it:

“Paris, Aug. 2nd, 1698. *Pere Jaques*’ reputation mightily slackens; out of forty-five whom he cut at the *Hotel-Dieu*, but sixteen survive; and out of nineteen in *la Charité*, but eleven. He has since practised at the hospitals at Lyons, but, it is said, with worse success than at Paris. I am sensible that he has abundance of enemies, which makes me often distrustful of what I may hear said of him. *Dr. Fagon*, the king’s physcian, told *Dr. Tournefort*, when he went to present his book to him, that he (*Jaques*) had cut seven persons at Versailles, and that

six of them are alive, and as well as if no operation had been performed. The one who died, was so dis-tempered, that he was not expected to live, and it was thought, that if he had not been operated on, he would have died sooner. The surgeons have a great mind to cry down the man, though they practise his method; for Maréchal has cut after the manner of Pere Jaques, with this difference only, that Maréchal's catheter was canulated. La Rue, the second surgeon of la Charité, cut after the old manner, at the same time that Maréchal adopted that of Pere Jaques, but had less success; for all that Maréchal cut are alive and very well, whereas la Rue lost one or two of his number, while those that survived, were not cured of their wounds so soon, by a month or six weeks."

There is one disease which is the great business of the town, a disease, which in some measure has contributed to the ruin of the practise of physic here, as it has in London. This secret service hath introduced little contemptible animals of all sorts into business, and hath given them occasion to insult families, after they have once acquired a knowledge of these misfortunes. And it is for this reason that the quacks do here, as with us, thrive vastly, and acquire great riches, beyond any of the physicians, by treating these calamities with nostrums. It was a pleasant diversion to me to read upon the walls every where about the town, but more particularly in the Fauxbourg of St. Germain, the quack's bills, printed in great uncial or capital letters: as, Par l'ordre de Roi.

Remede infallible et commode pour la guerison des maladies, &c. sans garder la chambre.

Another.

Par permission du Roi.

Manniere tres aisee et tres sure pour guerir sans incommodité, et sans que persone en apperceive, les maladies, &c.

Another.

Par privilege du Roi.

Le Medecin Indien pour toutes les maladies, &c. telle quelle puissent etre sans aucun retour, et sans garder la chambre. Il est tres commode, et le plus agreable du monde.

Another.

Remede assuré du Sieur de la Brune, privilege du Roi, &c. sans qu'on soit contraint de garder la chambre, &c.

By these bills it is evident there is yet a certain sense of decorum left, even among the French. They would be cured secretly, and as though nothing were doing, which these wretches highly promise. But this is that handle which gives those mean people an opportunity for insulting their reputation, and injuring them in their health for ever. Every one here puts a helping hand and meddles with the cure of this disorder, apothecaries, barbers, monks, women. Yet it did not appear by all the inquiries which I was able to make, that they possess any other remedies than ourselves; nay there is something practised in England for its cure, of which they know nothing here. But the old verse

Artem pudere proloqui, quam facites,
forbids me to say any thing further.

The apothecaries' shops are neat enough, if they

were but as well stored with medicines. Some are very finely adorned, and have an air of magnificence, as that of Monsieur Geofferie, who has been Provost des Merchands, in the Rue Burtebur; where the entry to the Basse Cour is a port-cochier, with vases of copper in the niches of the windows. Within are rooms with huge vases and mortars of brass, for ornament as well as use. The drugs and compositions are kept in cabinets disposed round the room. There are also laboratories behind the house, in great perfection and neatness. I cannot but acknowledge this gentleman's civility to me, and must needs recommend him for his care in educating his son, who came to England with Count Tallard; he is a most hopeful and learned young man, whom our society in Gresham-College, honoured at my request, and according to his deserts, by admitting him a fellow.

I had the opportunity of conversing with many of the physicians of this city, on the present state of physic; they all agreed in complaining of the low condition to which it was reduced, and the disesteem in which it stood; which they attributed to the boundless confidence and intrusion of quacks, women, and monks. Monsieur d'Achin, the late chief physician, has been ill thought of for taking money, and giving protection to this sort of *cattle*; but the present chief physician, M. Fagon, is a man of great honour and learning, and very desirous of promoting the interest of the medical art.

It is in Paris as in London, some practise from mere vanity, others to make a penny, by any means to get bread. The cause of all this is, as I think, the

excessive confidence which people have in their own skill, and the arrogance that arises from the want of reflection.

To make a judgement of cures, and of the skilful or injudicious practice of physic, is undoubtedly very difficult, even to the Faculty; yet such subjects are submitted to the decision of our common juries, who are the most ordinary men in England. I may truly say, without any disparagement to them, that I have found the most learned men of our nation, the most mistaken on these matters; nor can it well be otherwise in so conjectural an art, when we ourselves, scarcely know when we have done good or harm in our practice.

Another cause of the low esteem in which physic is in Paris, is the sorry fees^c that are given to physicians,

^c Nothing can be more degrading than the remuneration of physicians is in Spain, even at the present time. Two pence from the tradesman, and tenpence from the man of fashion, are deemed sufficient, while the poor, of course, pay nothing. Some noble families agree with their physicians by the year, paying him annually four score reals, that is sixteen shillings, for his attendance on themselves and their household!

The universal practice in England affords a strong contrast with the above statement, and the liberality of the British Court may be exemplified in the two following instances.

When his late Majesty recovered from his long illness, the remunerations to be paid to the physicians were thus settled: to Dr. Willis, fifteen hundred pounds per annum, for twenty-one years: to Dr. Willis, Jun. six hundred and fifty pounds per annum, for life: to each of the other phy-

so that the science is not worth the necessary application and study. The king is indeed very liberal to his chief physician, both in the pensions which he confers upon him, and in the preferments which he gives his children. Monsieur Bourdelot also, who is physician to the Dutchess of Burgundy, is well pensioned and lodged at Versailles. He is a learned man, and perfectly well skilled in the history of physic, and we may, as he himself told me, shortly expect from him, another supplement to Vander Linden's catalogue, which will contain several thousand volumes that are

sicians, thirty guineas per visit to Windsor, ten to Kew. Sir George Baker's fees, who had been longest in attendance amounted to one thousand three hundred guineas.

"George the second, being afflicted with a violent pain of the thumb, which had baffled the skill of the faculty, sent for the noted Dr. Joshua Ward; who, having ascertained the nature of the complaint before he was admitted to his Majesty, provided himself with a suitable nostrum, which he concealed in the hollow of his hand. On being introduced, he requested permission to examine the affected part, and gave it so sudden a wrench, that the king cursed him and kicked his shins. Ward bore this very patiently, and when the king grew cool, Ward respectfully asked him to move his thumb, which he did easily, and found that the pain was gone.

His Majesty insisted on knowing what he could do for Ward, who replied, that the pleasure of serving his Majesty was a sufficient remuneration, but that he had a nephew unprovided for, any favor conferred on whom he should consider as conferred on himself.

The King gave Ward a carriage and horses, and an ensigncy in the Guards for his nephew, who was the late General Gansell.

omitted in that catalogue, and are not accounted for.

Monsieur, and the Dauphin, and all the princes of the Blood, have their domestic physicians, some of whom I knew, viz. M. Arlot ; M. Minot, who is physician to the Prince of Conti ; with him I was acquainted formerly at Montpellier ; the two M. Morins, both very learned men ; M. Grimodet, &c.

Others have the practice of Nunneries and Convents which affords them bread ; others have parishes, and such like shifts ; but all is wrong with them, and very little encouragement is given to the faculty.

April 14. The Prince of Conti sent his gentleman and coach at midnight to fetch me to his son, with a request that I would bring with me the late king Charles's Drops to give him. This was a very hasty call. I told the messenger that I was the Prince's very humble servant, but for any drops or other medicines, I had brought nothing at all with me, and had used only such as I found in their shops, for all the occasions I had had to use any. I desired that he would tell the prince that I was ready to consult with his physicians upon his son's sickness, if he pleased to command me, but for coming upon any other account I desired to be excused. I heard no more of the matter, and the young prince died.

By this it is evident that there is as false a notion of physic in this country, as with us, and that it is here also thought a knack, more than a science or method ; accordingly little chemical toys, the bijoux of quacks, are mightily in request.

This heresy has possessed the most reflecting, as well as the most ignorant part of mankind, and we are

indebted for it to the late vain expositors of nature, who have mightily inveighed against, and undervalued the ancient Greek physicians, in whose works only this art is to be learned, unless individuals could singly live over as many ages, as those wise men did collectively.

Men are apt to prescribe to their physician, before he can possibly tell what, he, in his judgement, shall think fit to direct for them. It is well if this were done in negatives only, but they are prejudiced by the impertinence of the age, and *our men*, who ought to converse with the patient and his friends with prognostics only, which are the honor of physic, and not play the philosopher by fanciful and precarious interpretations of the nature of diseases and their remedies, with a design to gain credit from the ignorant; such physicians as these have certainly not studied the art of physic thoroughly and in earnest.

As the drops above-mentioned,^d were desired of

^d There were two receipts which were purchased by Charles, at a large expence, one was called the royal styp-tic; it seemed at first to have power over hæmorrhage, but disappointed the great expectations that were raised by it. It was merely a sulphate of iron prepared in a particular way. The other was the article here spoken of, the formula of which, Charles purchased of Dr. William Goddard, and gave the sum of fifteen hundred pounds for it. Before the king bought the receipt, the medicine was known by the name of Gutta Goddardiana, vel Arcanum Goddardianum, Goddard's secret, or drops. It was a volatile salt and oil distilled from bones, but as there was a disagreeable smell caused by the bones, silk was substituted. Its virtues are similar, but inferior to the volatile liquor of hartshorn.

me by other persons of quality, viz. the Princess d'Espinois, the Dutchess of Bouillon, Mons. Sesac, &c. I began to reflect that my master, the late king Charles, had not only communicated to me the process, but very obligingly shewed it to me himself, by taking me alone into his elaboratory at Whitehall, while the distillation was going on: I also remembered that Mr. Chevins, on another occasion, shewed me the materials for the drops, and which were newly brought in, viz. raw silk in great quantity; and I therefore caused the drops to be made here. I also put Dr. Tournefort upon making them, which he did in perfection, by distilling the finest raw silk he could get. For my own part I was surprised at the result of this experiment, having never before tried it; one pound of raw silk yielding an incredible quantity of volatile salt, and in proportion the finest spirit that I ever tasted; and what recommends it is, that when rectified, it is of a far more pleasant smell than that which comes from sal ammoniac or hartshorn; while the salt, refined and coholated with any well-scented chemical oil, makes the King's Salt, as it used to be called.

This my Lord Ambassador gave me leave to present in his name, and the Doctor now supplies those who want.

Silk, indeed, is nothing else than a dry jelly of the insect kind, and therefore it must be very cordial and stomachic. The Arabians were wise and knowing in the materia medica, to have put it into their Alkermes.

It must be acknowledged for the honour of the French king, that he has ever given great encouragements for useful discoveries of all kinds, but particu-

larly in medicine. It is well known that he lately bought the secret of the ^d Jesuits' powder, and made it public, as he did that of Ipecacuanha ^e.

To conclude, it was my good fortune here, to have a bundle of original papers of Sir Theodore Mayerne^f,

^d The virtues of bark were first discovered in the year 1500, but a century and a half elapsed before this article was known to Europe. And even when its power in curing ague was ascertained, the prejudices against it were so violent, that a quack, named Talbor, was obliged to disguise it and sell it as a specific for ague under an assumed name. Morton tells us that he charged five guineas an ounce for it, and that one person paid him ten guineas for two ounces. It is no wonder that he taught the faculty to administer it in large doses. Qu. did Lewis purchase Talbor's secret?

^e Ipecacuanha having been extolled as a specific in the cure of dysentery, to which the inhabitants of Paris were from local circumstances so prone, it was natural that the French king should wish his subjects to have the benefit of the discovery. He took a very judicious method of introducing it, by employing Helvetius to administer it gratuitously. By these means he attained his purpose, and Helvetius was enriched by a most extensive practice. I do not find the amount of the sum given by the king either for this or the bark, nor the name of the individual of whom he made the purchase.

^f I have not been able to ascertain that Dr. Lister ever gave these papers to the world; but in the year following the publication of his Journey, the works of Mayerne were published by Dr. Jos. Browne, in two volumes, folio, under the title of "Theo. Turquet Mayernii Equitis Aurati, Medici et Philosophi suo ævo per plurimè celeberrimi Opera Medica." Mayerne was a native of Geneva; he graduated at Montpellier, and was a candidate for practice at Paris. His attachment to chemical remedies, however, brought the

and his friends who corresponded with him, presented to me by the reverend Dr. Wickar, Dean of Winchester; who marrying his kinswoman, found them amongst other writings of law matters.

As yet I have not had leisure to peruse them, but they who know the worth of that great man, will desire that they may be made public. If they should be, they shall come forth entire, and not be disguised as some of his other papers have been, to the great detriment of medical science; affording, as I think, the first example of this nature, that posthumous papers ever were abbreviated and made what they never were, before an entire and full publication.

old Galenical physicians upon him, who procured a decree of the faculty against consulting with him. In 1611 he accepted the invitation of James I. to settle at London, where he passed the remainder of his life. In 1324 he received the honour of knighthood. He was successively physician to James, and the first and second Charles, and died in the eighty-second year of his age, at Chelsea, A. D. 1655. "*Gloriæ, divitiarum, et annorum satur,*" satiate of renown, of riches, and of years.

LATELY WAS PUBLISHED,
A
CRITICAL INQUIRY
INTO THE
PATHOLOGY
OF
SCROFULA ;
IN WHICH THE ORIGIN OF THAT DISEASE IS ACCOUNTED FOR
ON NEW PRINCIPLES ;
AND A
NEW AND MUCH IMPROVED METHOD IS RECOMMENDED
AND EXPLAINED FOR
THE TREATMENT OF IT.

BY GEORGE HENNING, M. D.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS



0 029 939 742 7